FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 SEPTEMBER 1984

GCC Ministers' Meeting in Saudi Arabia

At the first session of their meeting in the southern town of Abha, GCC foreign and defense ministers discussed a military working paper concerning the establishment of a joint defense policy, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah stated afterward in remarks reported by Riyadh radio.

Iran-Iraq

Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas stated that the Iran-Iraq war will "immediately end" if Iraq announces the "resuscitation" of the 1978 Iraq-Syria unity agreement, according to Doha radio citing Talas' statement in the Lebanese magazine *AL-SAYYAD*. He added that Syria has interceded with Iran to prevent the "expansion" of fighting and that Iran cannot fight Syria and Iraq together. According to Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, Talas admitted during this interview that Israel had supplied Iran with military equipment in a $25 million-deal concluded through a "third party."

In a separate development, Iraq has mined the area surrounding Khark Island without publicly announcing the move, according to Baghdad radio citing "regional maritime sources" quoted by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-SIYASAH*. Iranian officials have requested aid from the FRG and Great Britain after explosions had occurred, the paper added.

Israel

Bus Attack — Reporting the recent attack on an Israeli bus near Bethlehem, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed that a group of "our revolutionaries" carried out the attack that "killed or wounded several Zionist terrorists." However, the Al-'Asifah faction of Fatah refuted "'Arafat's deviationist leadership's claim" of responsibility, according to Damascus radio, and stated instead that Al-'Asifah carried out the attack in order to preserve the "armed Palestinian presence in the main confrontation arena." A Palestinian military spokesman cited by Radio Monte Carlo stated that the "Martyr Halim" group of the "General Command of the Palestinian Revolution Forces" carried out the attack within the context of "military escalation inside the occupied territories as approved by the Palestinian leadership during its recent meetings." Meanwhile, Israeli security forces lifted the curfew imposed on two Arab areas as a result of the incident and have detained several suspects, Jerusalem radio reported.

Egyptian Envoy — Prime Minister Shim'on Peres received Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni, who conveyed a "polite, congratulatory" message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, IDF radio reported. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Basyuni reiterated that the thawing of bilateral relations will be based on withdrawal from Lebanon, building confidence with the West Bank Palestinians, and beginning negotiations on Taba.

Egypt-USSR

The new Soviet ambassador arrived in Cairo and was met by a Foreign Ministry official, MENA reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad arrived in Algiers where he disclosed that his talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid will cover Algerian-PDRY coordination on the Palestinian question, Algiers radio reported. Before leaving Syria the PDRY leader said his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad were successful and will lead to further developments in Syrian-PDRY relations, according to Damascus radio.

Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held talks in Jidda with Saudi King Fahd, SPA noted.

Lebanon

The ministerial conclave continued in Bikfayya with discussions focusing on the establishment of a 40-member body to study constitutional reform, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported. The ministers also agreed that kidnapped persons should be released, Prime Minister Rashid Karami disclosed in remarks reported by the radio. In another development in Bikfayya, Lebanese military commanders discussed the security plan for the mountain with a Syrian military delegation, Beirut radio noted. The meeting was "positive" and the two delegations will hold further talks on 20 September. Meanwhile, Damascus radio announced details of the "complete agreement" reached in the Syrian capital between the warring factions in Tripoli, the Arab Democratic Party and the Islamic Grouping. The agreement stipulates that gunmen will be withdrawn from the city streets, that their heavy and medium weapons will be removed, and that Lebanese Army and Internal Security units, supported by Syrian Deterrent Forces, will maintain security in Tripoli and its environs. Nevertheless, clashes continued in the city following the announcement of the agreement, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Commenting on Syria's role in Lebanon in a magazine interview reported by Beirut radio, Syrian Defense Minister Talas stressed that Syria wants to finish with the Lebanese crisis as soon as possible and is not thinking of maintaining its military presence in Lebanon.

Libya-Chad

Libya wants to allow the Chadian people to solve their problem among themselves and hopes that all the factions will meet in Brazzaville to form a government of national union, Libyan

Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd al-Salim al-Turayki affirmed in an interview broadcast by Paris radio's international service. Nevertheless, if there is further outside intervention in Chad, Libya must assume its "responsibilities," he added. The Libyan official indicated that the French-Libyan withdrawal agreement does not cover the Aozou Strip, which he described as "an integral part" of Libya.

Afghanistan

Up to 300 "guerrillas" were killed in a Soviet military operation in the Panjsher valley area that began in late August and was continuing as late as 17 September, AFP reported citing Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad. Resistance sources in Peshawar confirmed the operation but stated they had no casualty figures, the agency said.

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AFP: 300 Guerrillas Die in Soviet Sweep

BK181312 Hong Kong AFP in English 1245 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Islamabad Sep 18 (AFP) — As many as 300 Afghan guerrillas have died in a Soviet sweep in the northeastern Panjsher area that began late last month and was continuing as late as yesterday, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

The sources added, however, that the Russians had come under guerrilla pressure in smaller valleys, after the rebels had vacated the main valley.

The guerrillas' retreat came after one operation in the sweep had left 200 to 300 rebels dead, the diplomats said, quoting reports from Kabul.

At the beginning of their attack the Soviet forces blocked the entrance to Khosto, Faryan and Nahrin, thus closing off the northern part of the valley. They then dropped troops by helicopter, the diplomats said.

The operation caused heavy casualties among the rebel forces, led by Ahmad Shah Masud of the Jami'at-e Eslami group.

However, resistance sources in Peshawar, while confirming the attack, said they had no casualty figures. A Jami'at-e Eslami spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that since last April, the Russians had made three abortive attempts to capture Faryan and push out mujahidin.

The Western diplomats said that the fighting was said to have been continuing as late as yesterday, and that Soviet warplanes were carrying out bombing raids in Panjsher.

Rebels have also attacked Soviet garrisons in Unaba, Bazarak and Rukha, the diplomats said. They gave no details of the guerrillas' actions.

However, they said mujahidin forces had carried out continued attacks on the Soviet convoys on Salang highway leading to the Soviet Union.

Last Wednesday, a large Soviet convoy was attacked near Kar Deshah, north of the strategic Salang tunnel. Several trucks destroyed in the ambush, the diplomats said, adding that traffic on the main highway was disrupted for one and a half days.

The diplomats also said the mujahidin were increasingly active in Kabul, and had launched rocket attacks on Soviet positions. A number of casualties were reported.

The guerrilla activity was reported to have prompted the Afghan regime to increase travel restrictions on foreign residents.

Successive rocket attacks were reported on four consecutive nights in Kabul, they said. In the heaviest such attack in several months, the diplomats said, rebels fired 20 rockets into the city causing unspecified casualties.

Many of the rockets had been aimed at the Ministry of Defence, the diplomats said target, they said. [sentence as received]

In one attack, guerrillas hit the regime's military installation near Radio Kabul, killing some soldiers, they said. Another hit Soviet-occupied apartments, and caused some casualties.

BBC Reports Guerrilla Losses

TA181546 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad say Soviet and Afghan Government forces inflicted heavy losses on guerrillas in an attack in the Panjsher valley on September the 5th. The sources say that between 200 and 300 guerrillas were killed. Alex Brodie reports from Islamabad:

[Begin recording] Reports from Western sources of such heavy guerrilla losses are unusual. The Western diplomatic sources say that the operation could well have been another attempt to capture or kill the guerilla commander in the Panjsher, Masud.

At the start of the attacks, the Russians are said to have blocked several exits from the upper Panjsher valley and then moved commandos in by helicopter. This rapid deployment of heliborn troops seems to become a regular tactic. In one large sweep on the 5th of September, say the diplomats, Soviet and government forces killed between 200 and 300 guerrillas.

Last week, guerrilla sources in the Pakistani frontier town of Peshawar said that they had received a letter from Masud, said to have been written on the 5th of September, in which he said that he was taken by surprise by the severity of an attack into the upper reaches of the Panjsher by Soviet commandos. Today, the diplomats said that the attack was followed up by aerial bombings on suspected guerrilla concentrations in the valley.

Just outside into the south of the Panjsher, on the strategic Salang highway linking Kabul with the Soviet border, the diplomats say that the guerrillas mounted several attacks on military convoys during the past week. They say that one attack just north of the Salang tunnel stopped traffic on the road for 1 and 1/2 days.

And in Kabul itself, guerrillas launched what Western diplomatic sources call the most serious attack on the city since August 1983. At least 14 rockets or mortars were fired onto the city on the evening of the 13th of September. Some of the targets were military, some shells landed on shopping and residential quarters. [end recording]

French Reporter Believed Captured by USSR Troops

BK191444 Hong Kong AFP in English 1435 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 19 (AFP) — A French television reporter on a secret assignment in Afghanistan has been wounded and is believed to have been captured by Soviet troops after an ambush by government forces, French sources in Quetta, southwest Pakistan, said today.

The reporter, Jacques Abouchar, 53, was with a team from the French state television network Antenne-2 under an Afghan

guerrilla escort, when they were attacked by Soviet and Afghan troops late Monday night, the sources said.

The ambush was said to have been carried out 25 kms (15 miles) from the border with Pakistan, in the Afghan Province of Kandahar, as the reporters headed toward Kandahar in a two-car convoy without lights through dunes and rocks.

A French freelance journalist accompanying the Antenne-2 team, Hugues Delatude, 26, said that Mr Abouchar was wounded in the shoulder when the car in which they were travelling was hit by machine gun fire and overturned.

Mr Delatude, who fled on foot with the other occupants of the car, cited guerrilla sources as saying that Mr Abouchar was last seen being transported on a Soviet tank towards a military post at Boldak, about 30 kms (18 miles) from the Pakistani border.

The account was confirmed by a well-placed Pakistani source, who declined to be identified.

"Jacques has surely been made prisoner," Mr Delatude said. Mr Abouchar was carrying his passport and press card at the time of the attack.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand Meets Hungarian Envoy

LD180251 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0524 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Kabul, September 16, BAKHTAR — Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of PDPA and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, had a courtly meeting in his office with Gyorgy Varga the ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic today.

Death Sentences Announced for Counterrevolutionaries

Eight Executed

LD152357 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Eight of the counterrevolutionary elements were sentenced to death by the Special Revolutionary Court on charges of terrorism, murder, plunder of the people's property, destruction of public property, armed resistance against the national security forces, and joining counterrevolutionary bands. The decision of the court on these criminals was implemented following the approval of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium in accordance with article 58 of the DRA Basic principles.

In a report to BIA the Special Revolutionary Court identified these criminals as follows:

Engineer Abdol Hai, son of Sher Mohammad, an inhabitant of Qandahar, member of the so-called consultative council and responsible for Kabul University in the Jami'at band.

Mohammad Yosuf Sayad, sone of Barat Ali, former member of the Jami'et-e Eslami and ringleader of a terrorist group in Kabul city.

Ata Mohammad, son of Feda Mohammad, an inhabitant of Baraki, Lowgar Province, former member of Jami'at-e Eslami and in charge of a terrorist group in Sevak, Bini Hesar and the old city of Kabul.

Mohammad Na'em, son of Mohammad Khetab, an inhabitant of Rokhah, Panjsher district, former member of the Jami'at band and ringleader of this band in (Kohdaman) of Kabul.

Sayd Mas'ud Shah, son of Qalander Shah, an inhabitant of Paghman district, responsible for reconnaissance and surveillance of the central region in the Jami'at band.

Sayd Habibollah, son of Sayd Hassan, an inhabitant of Qal'eh-ye Malek, Paghman district, former member of Jami'et, in charge of the organization and recruitment of this band.

Jan Aqa, son of Gol Ahmad, an inhabitant of Kabul, former member of Etehad-e Eslamic band.

And Ni'az Mohammad, son of Raz Mohammad, an inhabitant of 'Aoryakhel village of Paghman, former member of the Mowlawi Khalis band.

More 'Criminals' Executed

LD161531 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The counterrevolutionaries and their international collaborators have decisively lost their credit in our society. [passage indistinct]

An inhabitant of Qarghah.

Crimes: membership in the criminal band of Jami'at; being in charge of the financial section of the Jami'at band in the environs of Kabul Province and (Kohdaman) [district of Kabul Province]; committing terrorism; creating disturbances and agitation among the people; destruction of bridges and roads by planting bombs and mines; and opposing the aspirations of the party and government.

Decision of the court: Sentenced to death in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 221; Paragraph 1 of Article 213; Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 299; and Articles 208, 39 and 21 of the penal law.

Juma Gol, son of Bismillah, an inhabitant of Arghandeh of Paghman district.

Crimes charged: Deserting the sacred military service; joining the criminal band of Mahaz-e Milli; an armed attack on one of our noble compatriots, Pywand Ali; killing of his son; participating in the killing of this person's second son, and committing dozens of other subversive actions.

Decision of the court: Sentenced to death in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 8 of the penal law, crimes against the war preparedness of the Armed Forces [as heard] in consideration of

Paragraph 2 of Article 221; Paragraph 1 of Article 395; and Articles 39 and 21 of the penal law.

Mohammand Nasim, son of Mohammad Hayat, an inhabitant of (Deh Afghanan) of Kabul.

Crimes charged: Murder of three of our noble compatriots; taking part in the destruction of apartments and buildings; creating disturbances among the people; and dozens of other crimes.

Decision of the court: Sentenced to death in accordance with Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 212; Paragraph 1 of Article 213; and Article 182, 205, 39 and 21 of the penal law.

Dear listeners of radio Afghanistan: What can be the fate of those who have played with the life and property of the people, those who wanted to implement in our country their treacherous objectives, objectives planned in the White House, Peking and Islamabad?

The DRA Special Revolutionary Court, relying on humane principles and legal materials — legal materials in the drafting of which the principles and rules of Islamic shari'a as well as civil laws had been considered — announced the death sentence on these dirty criminals, which was carried out.

If the savage and criminal rebels still want to play with the tranquility and peace of our people their fate will be nothing but death.

'Professional Murderers' Executed

LD162321 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The stream of letters condemning the incident of planting a bomb outside Kabul airport terminal, which resulted in the martyrdom and injury of several of our innocent compatriots, including children, women and young people, is continuing.

However, our country's security forces and the judicial organs, considering the demands of public opinion, have dealt with these professional murderers and continue to deal with them. These murderers — You hear of their crimes, but there is no news of their filthy and disgraceful existence because the revolutionary court has tried them, and after they have been sentenced to death, their death sentences have been carried.

Habiborrahman, son of Sayd Rahman, inhabitant of Panjsher.

Crimes: deserting the military service; membership in the Gulbuddin band; resistance against the security forces; participation in the direct terror of a compatriot driver. He was sentenced to death, and the court's order has been carried out.

Chaghal Mohammad, son of Fazl Ahmad, inhabitant of Mir Bacheh Kowt Kabul.

Crimes: commander of the terrorist group of Jami'at in Kabul, Mir Bacheh Kowt and (Kohdaman); terrorist actions; the destruction and explosion of bridges and public places.

He was sentenced to death, and the court orders were carried out.

Mohammad Mahfuz, son of Mohammad Saber, inhabitant of Kuhestan.

Crimes: murder of two compatriots; participation in an armed operation against the state; membership in the terrorist band of Gulbuddin; ringleader of a 10-men group; and participation in dozens of other crimes.

This terrorist too, in accordance with the revolutionary and democratic legality, was sentenced to death, and the sentence was carried out.

Habibollah, son of Soltan Mohammad, inhabitant of Bini Hesar, Kabul Province, is one of other criminals who, after committing a series of terrorist actions, was captured by the security forces. Because of his grave crimes including the murder of three local inhabitants, intimidation, an armed attack on the security forces in Bini Hesar and a series of subversive activities, he was sentenced to death, and the sentence was carried out.

The vigilant security forces captured a person called Janat Gol, son of Abdol Qodus, and handed him over to the special revolutionary court. Do you know, compatriots, what this midget did?

He attacked a security post and martyred La'l Mohammad, one of our innocent compatriots, wounded another compatriot, was a member of the Jami'at criminal band, took fines and tithes by force from innocent people, martyred two young brothers called Sakhi Gol and Sahar Gol, sons of Saheb, the martyred Jom'a Khan, son of Khwaja Khan, with his two wives and a 7-year-old son; and he committed dozens of other crimes.

Compatriots, such were the dark deeds of these dark-faced and notorious people stimulated by the smell of dollars and the smell of Kaldar rupees to shed blood.

Tribal Regiment in Jowzjan Province Formed

LD142142 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The tribal regiment of Sozmaqala Region, Sang-e Charak district, Jowzjan Province, was formed yesterday at a glorious ceremony.

At the beginning of the ceremony, which was held in Sozma region by the working people of Tazel, Gordab, Charak, A'wqaf, Safar-Qeshtaq, Sozmaqala, Sozmaqala-e Afghaniya, Sozmaqala-e Uzbekiya, Sozmaqal-e Hazara villages, Sayd Nasim Mayhanparast, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the northern zone, spoke about the significance of a tribal regiment in Sozmaqala region and commended the bravery and courage of the heroic working people of Sang-e Charak district in defense of the gains of the revolution and the lofty objectives of the party and the DRA Government.

During the meeting the technical assistant of the Defense Ministry and the commander of the 18th Balkh Regiment explained the duties and responsibilities of this tribal regiment in safeguarding the honor of the homeland and the gains of the April revolution.

At the end of the ceremony Mawlawi Mohammaddin, one of the elders of this district, and Major Satar Pahlawan, commander of the above regiment, spoke on behalf of the people and the noble inhabitants of this district. They displayed their all-round preparedness for the defeat and total elimination of the counter-revolutionaries, and for the construction of the new and blossoming society.

The ceremony ended with revolutionary enthusiasm of those attending the ceremony.

Quoting a responsible source of this province, the BIA correspondent reports that 1,100 patriots of this district are being organized into this regiment.

According to another report, the head of the northern zone accompanied by the technical assistant of the Defense Ministry and the commander of the 18th Balkh Regiment, yesterday visited security posts of Sozmaqala region and gave instructions to those in charge.

Trade Union Representative Comments on Successes

LD170655 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0526 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Kabul, September 16 BAKHTAR — Over 1.0 thousand [number as received] persons have been organized in 5,341 organizations of the trade unions of the DRA.

This was stated by a representative of the trade unions in an interview with a BIA reporter.

The trade unions as one of the biggest social organizations of the DRA, working under the leadership of the PDPA, play a significant role in implementing the gains of the April revolution (1978) and building of a new society.

The trade unions of the DRA, staged work emulation drives in about 400 productive enterprises from 1981-1984 as a result of which 2 billion and 80 million afghanis have been earned.

The trade unions donated over one million afghanis as present to creative workers during the same period.

The members of the trade union has launched voluntary works as a result of which over 80 million afghanis has been gained.

Moreover, more than 23,000 members of the trade unions were organized in self-defence groups in 1983.

At the initiative of the trade union, over 1,840 literacy courses have been set up from which until now, over 35,000 persons are graduated.

The trade unions of the DRA have maintained relations with 129 national, regional and international organizations and have been sending its delegations to workers seminars and congresses convening in the various countries of the world.

Trade Unions Declaration on U.S. Missile Plans

LD160618 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Kabul, September 15, BAKHTAR — The Reagan administration has brought the world closer to the verge of nuclear catastrophe more than ever before by the deployment of its cruise and nuclear missiles in Europe, says the declaration of the Central Council of the Trade Unions of the DRA, issued on the occasion of September 1st, the day of action of trade unions for peace.

The declaration adds that shadow of destructive nuclear war is threatning our planet to annihilation, while peace-loving mankind spare no efforts to preserve peace and security in the world and to prevent the nuclear catastrophe.

The peace-loving people of the world expressed their wrath and indignation over destructive policies of the Reagan administration.

The declaration points out that the White House rulers want to increase Pentagon's military expenditures to 280 billion dollars in 1984 to gain military superiority.

The U.S. is producing MX missiles which contain nuclear warheads and the production cost of each one amount to 200 million dollars.

The destructive power of the missile is more than 3000 folds of the nuclear bomb used on Hiroshima.

The declaration says that the ruling circles of the White House have unprecedentedly intensified their military expenditure, while millions of people are suffering from hunger, malnutrition, poverty, diseases and illiteracy in developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The U.S. tries to militarise the outer space and has ignored the constructive and peaceful proposals of the Soviet Union in this sphere, the declaration points out.

The declaration emphasized that we, the workers of the DRA, are severely against deployment of U.S. cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe, production and using of chemical weapons and stockpiling of them and in favour of reopening of talks for the limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons and on solving the Middle East issue.

The declaration fully supports the constructive proposals of the Soviet Union and strictly condemns the shameful interferences of imperialism, hegemonism and Zionism in the world.

Pashtun Leader Met by Officials on Arrival
LD161854 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] A Pashtun leader and a leader of the National Democratic party, Khan 'Abdol Wali Khan and Begum Nasim Wali arrived in Kabul at noon to visit his father, the great Pashtun leader Khan Abdol Ghafar Khan.

They were welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairperson of the DRA peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization; Najibollah, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the minister of communication; 'Abdol Rashid Arian, vice-chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council; 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, vice-chairman of the council of Ministers; some members of the Council of Ministers; deputy ministers of the Ministry of Tribal and Nationalities Affairs; and a number of heads of social organizations and some leaders of Pashtuns residing in Kabul.

Khan 'Abdol Khan and Nasim Wali visited their father in a hospital where he is under medical treatment.

Solyaman Lae'q, the minister of tribal and nationalities affairs, who went to Jalalabad to welcome Khan 'Abdol Wali Khan and Begum Nasim Wali, accompanied them to Kabul.

Reception Honors Pashtun Leader
LD182159 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] A reception was given this evening by Solayman Laeq, minister of nationalities and tribal affairs, in honor of Khan Abdol Wali Khan, a great leader of Pashtuns and one of the leaders of the National Democratic Party. The reception was also attended by Najibollah and Aslam Watanjar, members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, and by some members of the PDPA Central Committee.

According to another report, Khan Abdol Wali Khan and his wife, Mrs Nasim Wali, accompanied by Abdorrashid Waziri, deputy minister of nationalities and tribal affairs, and some officials of that ministry, this morning went to Martyrs Hill and prayed for the pure souls of the martyrs of the revolution.

Karachi: Mujahidin Ambush Soviet Convoys
BK181612 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] According to reports received from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have ambushed Soviet convoys at various places and they have been successful in arresting movement of traffic through the strategic Salang Pass for 2 days. It is said that (?they) attacked the capital of Kabul with rockets for 4 consecutive nights early this month. The reports also speak of severe fighting between the mujahidin and the Soviet-Karmal forces in the strategic valley of Panjsher. According to a report, the fighting was continuing until yesterday. Reports of heavy loss of life in the fighting also received.

Three officers of the Afghan airlines in New Delhi have defected from the government and they have been granted refugee status by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. One of them, Muizuddin Amin, who was the station manager, in a letter to the UN office said that the foreign intervention in Afghanistan has rendered Afghan airlines, and indeed anyone of his country, incapable of making any decision or acting freely.

Clandestine Radio on Execution of Spies
GF160750 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] According to reports sent by our brother mujahidin, two women who were spies for the infernal "KHAD" espionage organization have been killed and sent to their deserved punishment by the bullets of our enemy-killing brother Muslim mujahidin in (Kucheh 'Aliza'i) located in the environs of District No. 1 of Qandahar city.

The same report says that the two women who were killed had been active members of the infernal KHAD organization in the Qandahar Province. The report adds that our Muslim guerrillas once more showed, by this revolutionary and wrathful action, that those who carry out covert as well as overt espionage for the spy-nurturing regime — especially in the espionage organization of KHAD and the so-called party organizations of the Karmal regime to the detriment of the noble and (?honorable) nation — [word indistinct] will not go unpunished.

Another part of the report notes that the Soviet occupation forces and the mercenary forces of the regime have suffered heavy losses at the hands of our Muslim mujahidin. In order to avenge these losses, they attacked and besieged some villages in (Panjwa'i) district in order to tyrannize and oppress the people and plunder their property and (?orchards) of [name indistinct]. Our Muslim mujahidin in this area acted as soon as they heard of the frenzied carnage by the aggressive forces. As a result, violent clashes ensued in the area of the besieged village. The report states that the Muslim mujahidin of the area inflicted heavy losses and casualties on the alien aggressor forces during the course of these clashes. The exact toll is not yet known. These operations took place in Qandahar at a time when similar clashes and operations were taking place in all the provinces in the urban areas.

Clandestine on Recent Mujahidin Operations
GF170847 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] According to reports received here from our brother mujahidin, our Muslim mujahidin carried out a successful operation against the Soviet aggressor forces and the hireling Karmal regime and have brought most of the Salang Highway under their control. The Salang Highway is the most strategic highway of the Soviet usurpists and the Karmal regime mercenaries.

In these operations, the areas controlled by the militia units of

the Soviet occupationist forces came under the control of our brother mujahidin. Some weapons, ammunition, and military equipment were seized by our Muslim mujahidin brothers as booty. Similarly, our brother mujahidin have stepped up their attacks on the Soviet usurpists and the deceived elements of the government in the Panjsher valley and have consolidated the positions under their control against the sudden and unexpected attacks of the aggressors. Last week, the Soviet aggressive forces and the deceived elements of the government attacked our brother revolutionaries in Nangarhar Province on the pretext of taking revenge on the (?people) of the district. In this barbaric attack, more than 120 of our compatriots were martyred. But the explosion of a mine planted by our brother mujahidin killed 25 of the Karmalite hirelings and aggressors in Nangarhar Province and a considerable number were wounded.

Another report says that our brother mujahidin carried out guerrilla operations against the Soviet aggressor forces and the deceived elements of the communist Kabul regime in the (Mohmand Aqa) in Logar Province. Fifteen of the communist mercenary forces were killed, and some were injured. In these operations, three of the enemy's (?vehicles) were destroyed by our Muslim mujahidin.

An information source of our brothers reports: In continuation of the attacks in the past few days by our brother mujahidin on the joint government and aggressive forces, violent fighting took place between our brother mujahidin and the usurpist forces near the city of Qandahar.

Kabul Radio Program Carries Citizens' Complaints

LD182031 [Editorial Report] Kabul Domestic Service in Dari and Pashto at 1035 GMT on 18 September 84 in its "Voice of the People" program reads listeners' letters complaining about the following issues: disorderly fuel distribution and gas lines at a gasoline station in Kabul, which the announcer says will be brought to the attention of the oil products department; dirty streets and lack of public telephones in Kabul; blackmarketeering at the Konduz cinema; shopkeepers' improper treatment of children.

Other complaints include boys' verbal abuse of girls on the way to school; lack of medicine coverage in civil servants' medical insurance; delays in delivery of letters; criticism of butchers and bakers in Takhar Province; poor road conditions; improperly cooked food at the Kabul University canteen.

The program continues with listeners phoning in complaints on the following: Kabul residents bemoan fumes from insecticide stored in a warehouse; poor road conditions in Baraki; shortages of drinking water in Kheyr Khaneh Mena.

Bilateral Talks With PRC Resume 18 September
BK190337 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Indian and Chinese officials yesterday resumed their border issue. On the opening day, the two sides had formed four subgroups, one exclusively to deal with the border problem. The groups also had their first meeting on Monday.

Plan To Hand Over Golden Temple to Sikh Committee
BK181244 Hong Kong AFP in English 1216 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Sept 18 (AFP) — President Zail Singh today met top Punjab officials in the state capital Chandigarh amid reports that the government was planning to hand over the Golden Temple at Amritsar to the Sikh Temple Committee before the end of the month.

Sikhs, led by their five high priests, have threatened to march on the 400-year-old shrine on October 1 if the Indian Army has not withdrawn from the holiest shrine by then.

The Golden Temple was stormed by Indian troops on June 6 to dislodge Sikh militants who had entrenched themselves inside the shrine.

Over 650 people, including 93 government soldiers, were killed in the Army operation and sections of the complex were badly damaged.

THE PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency said from Chandigarh that Mr. Zail Singh met the governor of Punjab and other senior officials during a stopover on the way to Simla, a hill resort in the Himachal Pradesh State.

Local journalists in Amritsar said they had been told by several officials that the shrine will be handed over by September 30.

Repair work on the damaged portion of the shrine was fast nearing completion and it would be back to its original state by the end of the month, they added.

"Work is going on 24 hours a day and thousands of workmen are involved," one journalist said.

Punjab To Reorganize, Strengthen Police
BK181251 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The Punjab government has decided to reorganize and strengthen the police setup in the state in accordance with the recommendations of the high-level R.V. Subramaniam committee. The committee was set up by the union government some time back to make a detailed study of the functioning of the state police. It submitted the first part of the report in the middle of last month. The state home secretary, Mr N.N. Vohra, said in Chandigarh today that a new post of inspector general of police headquarters has been created. He will be assisted by one deputy inspector general and two assistant inspector generals. Mr Vohra said the government has also decided to launch a time-bound program to reorganize the Punjab armed police force to make it more effective. A seasoned senior officer is immediately being appointed as inspector general of Punjab armed police.

2 Killed in Amritsar; Potential Hijacking Averted
BK181623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Two suspected terrorists were killed in an encounter with the security forces at Bhular village in Amritsar district today. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that arms and ammunition were recovered from one of the killed. The security forces have also apprehended nine more miscreants in the state.

The Chandigarh police have detained two youths on suspicion of intending to hijack an Indian Airlines plane during its flight from Chandigarh to Jammu. They were detained on suspicion during the security check just before they were to board the plane. The plane was on Delhi-Chandigarh-Jammu-Srinagar flight.

Andhra Pradesh Political Developments Detailed
BK181619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, Mr P. Mohindernath of the ruling Telugu Desam Party has been appointed as the new pro tem speaker by the governor. Mr Mohindernath, who was sworn in as minister on Sunday last, resigned from the cabinet. A Raj Bhawan [Governor's House] communique in Hyderabad said today that his resignation has been accepted.

Earlier, the governor, Mr S.D. Sharma, terminated the appointment of Mr Sultan Saluddin Owaisi, who was made pro tem speaker 5 days ago. Mr Mohindernath will conduct the election of the speaker of the assembly when it meets on Thursday [20 September]. The chief minister, Mr Rama Rao, will seek the vote of confidence on the same day.

Meanwhile, the former chief minister, Mr Bhaskara Rao, has indicated that his party will contest the elections for the speaker. He told newsmen in Hyderabad this evening that a decision will be taken in consultation with the Congress-I and other parties tomorrow. The Congress-I legislature party is also meeting tomorrow to consider the issue.

Meanwhile, the state chief minister, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, has said that the portfolios of the ministers will be announced in a couple of days. He was talking to newsmen after an informal meeting of the cabinet this morning. In reply to a question, he said instructions have been issued to the police to provide protection to the supporters of Mr Bhaskara Rao.

The Andhra Pradesh Congress-I president, Dr Rajshekhar Reddy, has alleged that the ruling Telugu Desam workers are harrassing his party men. He told newsmen in Hyderabad that the Congress-I legislators have acted with restraint during the assembly session last week. They do not want to be involved in what he called group politics of the Telugu Desam Party. He said

the Congress-I will continue to play the role of responsible opposition.

In Hyderabad, the day curfew in 14 police station areas in old city was relaxed for a short while this morning. A police spokesman said one person was stabbed to death and two more incidents were reported during the relaxation period. He said the situation is now under control. In 12 other police station areas, night curfew has been imposed as a precautionary measure.

The state legislative council is to meet on the 26th October instead of 20th of this month as scheduled earlier. This was officially announced in Hyderabad today.

Hyderabad Old City Tense

BK190303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] In the old city of Hyderabad, the situation has become tense but under control. The city police commissioner has said that there were three incidents last night. The police opened fire to disperse a violent crowd near Mir Chowk. No one was injured. Twenty bad characters have been rounded up. The police commissioner said that day and night curfew is in force in 16 localities and night curfew in 10 areas as a precautionary measure.

Envoy Says Canada To Recognize Sikh Group

BK161411 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] India's diplomatic representatives in Canada have arrived in New York to acquaint the foreign secretary, Mr Rasgotra, about the latest developments in Canada following the recent acts of vandalism by the so-called Khalistan supporters.

The acting Indian high commissioner at Ottawa, Mr (Cherian), told newsmen in New York that the Canadian Government has decided to recognize Sikhs as an ethnic group separate from other Indian community.

It is extending financial (? grants to them) which has resulted in creating a wedge between migrant Sikhs and other Indian communities abroad.

Talks With Nepal Begin on Common River Projects

BK180907 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Official level talks between India and Nepal on the development of water resources of common rivers for the benefit of the two countries were resumed in New Delhi today.

The Indian delegation to the talks is being led by the irrigation secretary, Mr M.G. Padhye. The water resources secretary of Nepal, Mr Madhusudan Dhakal, is heading his country's delegation. During the 3-day talks, progress made on Pancheshwar, Karnali and western Rabti projects will be discussed among other things.

Official Leaves for UN General Assembly Session

BK151209 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Ram Niwas Mirdha, left New Delhi this morning for Paris on way to New York to lead the Indian delegation to the 39th session of the UN General Assembly beginning next Tuesday. He will make a customary statement on behalf of India in the general debate on the 27th of this month before leaving for New Delhi. Thereafter the delegation will be led by Mr G. Parthasarathi, chairman of the Policy Planning Committee. He will also preside over the ministerial meeting of the nonaligned countries scheduled to be held from the 1st to the 3d of next month.

Talks With UK Lead to Increased Trade Agreement

BK190424 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] India and Britain have agreed to cooperate in increasing the levels of trade. This follows talks between the commerce secretary, Mr Abid Hussain, and the visiting British permanent secretary for trade, Mr Anthony Rowlands, in New Delhi. The trade talks began yesterday. The two secretaries felt that traditional ties between the two countries should be further strengthened.

Britain is India's major trading partner in the European Community. Major items of export to Britain include textiles, leather and leather goods, pearls, and precious and semiprecious stones. Our imports include machinery, transport, equipment, chemicals, and scientific instruments.

Progress in Heavy Water Production Reported

BK161055 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] India is poised for a major breakthrough in the production of heavy water used in nuclear power reactors. According to a publication of the Department of Atomic Energy, considerable progress has been made toward attaining self-sufficiency in heavy water production. Most of the initial problems faced by the heavy water program have been overcome. The Baroda and Tuticorin plants have been operating. The plant at Kota is also expected to be ready for trail run by the end of this month.

Heavy water upgrading plants designed by the Bhabha Atomic Research Center have also been operating satisfactorily.

Flood Situation in Various States Reported

BK181259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The flood situation in Assam continues to be grave, with the state cut off from the rest of the country by rail and road for the 3d day today. Massive rescue and relief operations by the army, air force, and civil authorities continue round the clock. Air dropping of food packets were undertaken today also.

The state revenue minister, Mr K.C. Gogoi, said in Gauhati that the government has requested the army and air force authorities to reinforce their rescue squads and intensify air dropping operations in Kamrup, Barpeta, and adjoining areas. According to Defense Ministry sources, floods of this intensity have not been witnessed during the last 20 years. It is estimated that 2 million people have been affected by the floods in Assam.

In Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar has been cut off from Lakhimpur in Assam since the 14th of this month. Landslides have badly affected road communications. In Bihar, the swollen Kosy is posing a grave threat of inundation to vast areas of human habitation in Sharda, Khagaria, and Purnia districts. In Madhubani district, the flood situation has worsened. The rail track between Jainagar and Janakpur has been washed away.

The loss suffered by West Bengal during the floods has been estimated to be 1,460 million rupees. The state revenue and panchayat minister, Mr Benoy Chowdhury, told the assembly that 100 million rupees have already been distributed to the affected people as grants and subsidy. All rivers excepting Teesta are in high spate. Nineteen persons were drowned while crossing the river (Hanskawa) in Coochbehar district. About 60,000 people are taking shelter in different school buildings.

Deaths Rise to 36

BK190322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] In Assam, the death toll in fresh flood has risen to 36. The Brahmaputra [River] and its tributaries continue to ravage the state. Troops have been deployed in three more districts of Kokrajhar, Darrang, and Barpeta for relief and rescue operations. The state continues to remain cut off from the rest of the countries.

In neighboring West Bengal, 19 people are reported killed in a bus disaster in the River (Hanskawa) in flood-hit Coochbehar district. In Nadia District, low-lying areas have been inundated by the flood waters of Jalangi, Bhagiratti, and Churini rivers. About 30,000 people have been evacuated to safer places.

In Bihar, efforts are on to protect the Kosi main embankment. Six army boats have been pressed into service in Saharsa District where the situation is reported to be very grim. The chief minister, Mr Chandra Shekhar Singh, visited the area of erosion on the eastern bank near Kataiya village in the district. Our Patna correspondent reports that about 50 meters of embankment have been washed away.

Paper Criticizes Charges Against U.S., Pakistan

BK180956 Delhi THE INDIAN EXPRESS in English 5 Sep 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Dangerously Out of Turn"]

[Text] Just as the Government of India has warmly thanked the United States for its understanding and friendship in the matter of the handling of the IC-421 hijackers, the AICC (I) [All India Congress Committee-I] has in a pamphlet entitled "Conspiracy Exposed" accused CIA agents of participating in training Pakistani agents and others, some disguised as Sikhs, in Kasur in (West) Punjab in a "diabolical plot" to destabilise and dismember India in collaboration with Pakistan. Hundreds of men are said to have been given intensive training in batches of 300-400 for three to four months under the leadership of a Pakistani artillery brigadier with CIA personnel working as "station chief or second in command." Here is a very specific statement coming from the ruling party, whose president is Prime Minister of India, making a most damaging allegation against two friendly countries on the basis of information supposedly gathered during interrogation of the terrorists apprehended by the Army in Punjab. The White Paper on Punjab was conspicuously silent on this matter. Now the AICC (I) claims to tell it all.

The charges levelled against Pakistan go further and speak of training centres for Sikh secessionists and sundry others (smugglers and criminals let off the hook) in espionage and something called "black propaganda" in Eminabad, in Gujranwala district, Rahim Yar Khan, Attock, Daud Fort, Shekhupura and Abbottabad. There are references to batches of 200-300 men being trained in these places, which suggests a recruitment of several thousand. Further, Pakistani agents and arms and ammunition are said to have been infiltrated over the border into J & K [Jammu and Kashmir], Punjab and Rajasthan.

Altogether this adds up to a formidable indictment of two friendly governments on a charge of waging war against India. If there is any truth in these assertions then the country would want to know more about it from official sources. In the absence of any such word thus far, one must assume that this is another of those ludicrous disinformation pamphlets that Mrs Gandhi's party puts out from time to time without a blush. One is inclined to assume that this is so because the charges cited and the language used appears to be a straight lift from a news agency report put out soon after the Punjab action which attracted no notice whatsoever at the time presumably because it was regarded as little more than a propaganda plant.

Some weeks ago Mrs Gandhi denied having stated in Himachal Pradesh that a Washington-based US agency was involved in destabilising Punjab, as earlier reported. She said she had merely quoted a Washington report to this effect published in an Indian paper. The AICC (I) too seems to be quoting (whether without acknowledgement or otherwise) a newspaper plant that nobody cared to bite. The inanities of the AICC (I) are its own affair. But when the ruling party starts destabilising the country's foreign relations with its political flatulence, citizens have a right to know who is speaking dangerously out of turn and why.

Foreign Secretary Holds Talks With UK Counterpart

For Delhi Domestic English coverage of the meeting in London between Foreign Secretary Maharaj Krishnan Rasgotra and the UK's Sir Antony Ackland, see the United Kingdom section of the 20 September Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

Zia Calls for Jihad To Liberate Jerusalem

JN190759 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 19 Sep 84 p 1

[By Hashim Khuraysat and Muhammad Naji 'Amayirah in Islamabad]

[Text] Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq Tuesday called on world Muslims to declare a jihad (holy war) against Israel to liberate the occupied territories and Jerusalem if the Jewish state does not respond to calls for peaceful negotiations and withdraw from the occupied Arab territories.

"If Israel does not withdraw from Jerusalem through peaceful means, Muslims all over the world will have to restore the Holy City by force — an Islamic jihad," General Zia said in a wide-ranging interview with the *JORDAN TIMES* and *AL-RA'Y* Arabic-language daily.

The Pakistani leader reiterated Pakistan's firm support for Arab and Muslim rights in the occupied Arab territories and stressed the need to form a pan-Islamic strategy to end the Israeli occupation.

Commenting on the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq, Gen. Zia said there can never be a solution to the conflict through war. He called for peace negotiations to end the nearly-four-year- old conflict. "There should be a willingness on both sides (Iran and Iraq) to seek a peaceful solution," he said, "and in my opinion the Iraqis seem to be more flexible than the Iranians."

The Pakistani leader, a member of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) goodwill committee seeking to end the Gulf war, said the Iraqi stand was receptive to peace while the Iranians have adopted a stern stand and demand the overthrow of the Iraqi Government as a precondition to end the war, in addition to war "compensations."

"As long as the Iranians do not change their stand, there could never be a solution to the war," he said. He expressed hope that concerted efforts by the Non-aligned Movement, the OIC and "all peace-loving countries in the world" will lead to a peaceful solution in the Gulf.

Gen. Zia praised Jordanian-Pakistani relations describing them as "strong" in all fields. "The good relations that Jordan and Pakistan have owe their origin to the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, who have always endeavoured to strengthen the bilateral ties," he said.

"Pakistan benefits from Jordan's expertise in various fields," Gen. Zia said, underlining the two countries' cooperation in religious affairs.

In reply to a question on Pakistan's relations with India, Gen. Zia said Pakistan always sought friendly relations with all its neighbours, but Indo-Pakistani relations have been deteriorating over the past three decades. He attributed the strain in his country's current relations with India to three major reasons: "First, the two countries fought three wars since their independence in 1947; second, the lack of confidence between New Delhi and Islamabad; and the third reason was persisting differences over the fate of Kashmir."

"The people of Kashmir," he said, "deserve the right of self-determination which the Indian Government denies them."

Gen. Zia, however, ruled out the possibility of a military confrontation between the neighbours. "Occasional border skirmishes are quite normal," he said, "but in the meantime there is no possibility of a full-scale war."

He called for peaceful negotiations to settle outstanding border differences between India and his country. "Our border disputes have to be settled by peaceful means, and we have made progress in the past few years," he said.

Gen. Zia said India has been accusing Pakistan of supporting a rebellion by the Sikhs in the north Indian state of Punjab and interfering in Kashmir's political offairs. He categorically denied all the Indian allegations and said Pakistan does not interfere in its neighbours' affairs in accordance with the principle of non-interference in others' affairs.

Referring to the situation in Afghanistan, another neighbour of Pakistan, Gen. Zia expressed optimism that a political solution to the problem there will be found soon. However, he said, Pakistan is trying to unite all Afghan rebel movements to confront the Soviet forces present in Afghanistan. "The mujahidin will never drop their guns until their cause is achieved," he said.

Zia Speaks at Seminar on Islamic Solidarity

BK180803 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has called for complete unity and solidarity of the Islamic ummah [community] to promote peace and harmony in the world. The eternal value of the Islamic message of peace, he said, is more than ever relevant to the conditions prevailing in today's world. The need for promoting understanding and good will among nations has become paramount. He said this while inaugurating a 4-day international seminar on "Islamic Solidarity Is Essential for World Peace" in Islamabad today.

The president reminded the audience that Afghanistan had lost its Islamic and nonaligned status as a result of military intervention by a superpower. The alien forces were trying to turn Afghanistan into a communist regime with the help of its puppet. He made it clear that the struggle of the 15 million people of Afghanistan could not be allowed to go down the drain. The freedom fighters in Afghanistan, he said, were laying down their lives not only for their own freedom, but their jihad was in fact for the protection of the independence of the whole Muslim world. He said Islam enjoins upon its followers not to fight with anybody and lays stress on solution of disputes through negotiations. It also enjoins upon them to fight against the aggressor in the name of God.

The president referred to the tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq and said it remained a matter of great anguish for the entire

Islamic ummah. It was their earnest hope and prayer that peace would be restored between the two neighborly states.

About the situation in the Middle East, the president said Pakistan was irrevocably committed to the restoration of Al-Quds al-Sharif and the occupied Palestinian and Arab lands to Muslim sovereignty. The president urged scholars and thinkers attending the seminar to project the Islamic concept of life in all aspects and dimensions for the greater good of mankind and make a positive contribution to the promotion of world peace.

Iraqi Awqaf Minister Meets Ziaul Haq
JN181509 Baghdad INA in English 1450 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Islamabad, 18 Sep (INA) — Iraqi Minister for Awqaf 'Abdallah Fadil called on Pakistani President Gen. Mohammad Ziaul Haq here today.

The Iraqi minister conveyed greetings and good wishes of President Saddam Husayn and the people of Iraq to the Pakistani president. President Ziaul Haq, reciprocating, also conveyed greetings and good wishes to President Husayn and the Iraqi people.

During the meeting, the Pakistani president touched upon the Iraq-Iran war and expressed regret that the conflict was continuing for the last four years despite efforts from various quarters. President Ziaul Haq specially praised the peaceful attitude and possitive approach of Iraq and President Saddam Husayn to all peace initiatives and expressed his earnest wish that peace will be restored soon and the conflict will be resolved through peaceful negotiations.

The Iraqi delegation Tuesday participated in the proceedings of the two commissions on security and cultural affairs of the international seminar on Islamic solidarity. Various delegates contacted by INA were highly appreciative of the true Islamic approach of the Iraqi Government under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn on the Gulf war.

Foreign Minister Says Iran Talks 'Satisfactory'
GF160740 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 13 — Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who returned here on Thursday evening after a three-day official visit to Iran, described his talks with the Iranian leaders as most satisfying.

Talking to newsmen at Islamabad Airport, he said the Iranian leaders appreciated the fact that the main aim of the visit was to further strengthen and develop bilateral relations between Iran and Pakistan, particularly in economic and commercial fields.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that besides talks with his Iranian counterpart, Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, he was also received in audience by President Khamene'i, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi and Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He said these meetings confirmed that there was a reciprocal desire to further improve and fortify bilateral relations.

Regional issues, Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war and the Middle East were discussed during talks with Iranian leaders, he said. On Afghanistan, he said, he had briefed the Iranian leaders on the third round of indirect Geneva talks between Pakistan and Kabul authorities. He said he had assured the Iranian leaders that the ultimate aim of Iran and Pakistan was the same despite differences of approach that might exist.

He said he had explained Pakistan's position and rationale about the need to consult the refugees on their conditions for their honourable return to Afghanistan.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he had also briefed the Iranian leaders on Pakistan's relations with the Soviet Union and India. On the Middle East, he said, the two sides affirmed their support for the just Palestinian cause.

Asked if ICO matters were also discussed, he said Iranian leaders had expressed certain reservations regarding the effectiveness of the Organisation of Islamic Conference. He said he had affirmed to them that the ICO was playing a very important role in the Muslim world. He said he did not think that Iranian leaders disapproved of the present ICO constitution.

During his visit, the Foreign Minister was accompanied by a three-member delegation.

Regional Cooperation Group To Be Revived
GF150955 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Sep 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Rawalpindi, Sept. 10 — The Federal Cabinet has approved the revival and activation of RCD [Regional Cooperation for Development] under a new name, "Regional Economic Cooperation," as proposed by Iran.

The Cabinet, which met here on Monday under chairmanship of President Gen. Mohammad Ziaul Haq, also agreed to an Iranian proposal that the highest council of the RCD (the council of ministers), instead of being composed of the foreign ministers, should be made up of under-secretaries for Economic Coordination of the three countries (equated with Pakistan's federal secretary) and that Regional Planning Council could also be at the under-secretary level.

It may be recalled that RCD was established in 1964 and till 1979 was an active organisation which had greatly contributed towards the enhancement of economic cooperation between Pakistan, Iran and Turkey.

Events in Punjab Said Planned by "Third Agency"
BK151702 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpts] In the Indian state of Punjab, special police courts have been set up in all districts to deal with the Akali agitation.

Meanwhile, an Indian monthly English magazine in a lead article in its latest edition has disclosed that all operations carried out in the Indian Punjab were planned and implemented by a top

intelligence organization whose secret name is "Third Agency." The Indian monthly wrote that this agency, which has unlimited resources at its hand, has been fanning the Punjab problem, as well as the Tamil crisis in Sri Lanka, in order to help the ruling Congress Party reap the benefit in the election campaign. This agency fanned violence in the Indian Punjab and, in recognition of this service, its senior officers were awarded police medals and have been appointed in foreign countries as a token of reward.

In its detailed article, the Indian monthly also named a number of officers and other persons who belong to the Indian inteiligence agency Research and Analysis Wing [RAW] and who worked in this top intelligence organization "Third Agency." One of these officers is G.S. Mishra, who heads the political affairs department and who has been coordinating the operations in East Punjab, Rajasthan, and the occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

The monthly *SURYA INDIA*, writing about the success of the "Third Agency," says that just when the people had begun to (?understand) the Army action in the East Punjab, the toppling of the occupied Kashmir government took place. Only 3 days after the dismissal of Dr Farooq Abdullah, a preposterous incident of a plane hijacking occurred, and this was followed by the ouster of the N.T. Rama Rao ministry in Andhra Pradesh. The monthly wrote that N. Narsimha, an assistant director of RAW, had been given the job of toppling the governments in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Narsimha's job was to pave the way for this action and he did it very efficiently. In recognition of this service, he is now posted in Washington.

Iranian Trade Delegation Discusses Imports

GF151000 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Sep 84 p 1

[From the Economic and Business Review supplement]

[Text] Karachi, Sept 10 — The six-member Iranian trade delegation on Monday had discussion with the officials of the Trading Corporation of Pakistan and termed the talks as "satisfactory".

Talking to APP after the 'talks' the leader of the delegation, Mr T. Keshavarz, said the 'discussions' were held in a 'friendly, cordial and brotherly atmosphere'.

He said the discussions centred round textiles and some other items. Mr Keshavarz said the delegation came to Pakistan mainly to participate in the Pakistan International Trade Fair [PITF] and study the trade possibilities in various spheres.

On return to Iran, the delegation would submit a 'report' to the Iranian Government for its consideration and examination.

Last year Iran signed an accord with Pakistan for increased trade. During their stay the delegation will hold talks with various trade and business organisations including the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi.

The delegation would stay in Pakistan till the conclusion of PITF '84, but some of its members would return to Iran on Sept 18.

The TCP [Trading Corporation of Pakistan] delegation was led by Mr Ferozeuddin Ahmad, director of exports.

French Delegation Visits Afghan Refugee Village

BK180204 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The French parliamentary delegation visited an Afghan refugee tented village at Kachagarhi near Peshawar this morning. Talking to the refugees, the leader of the delegation, (Taverneour), said that France stood for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan. He said it has always strived at the United Nations and through diplomatic channels in Europe for this purpose.

Earlier, an Afghan refugee elder explained the circumstances which forced them to leave Afghanistan and seek shelter in Pakistan.

Later, the delegation called on the Northwest Frontier Province governor, Lieutenant General Fazle Haq, and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Finance Minister Leaves for IMF Meeting in U.S.

BK181134 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpt] The federal finance minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, left Islamabad for Washington this morning to lead the Pakistani delegation to the annual meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. The meeting will be inaugurated by President Reagan on the 24th of this month.

PAKISTAN TIMES Discusses Nuclear Program

GF151436 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 1 Sep 84 p 9

[Article by Kalim Akhtar]

[Text] According to a PPI report that appeared in the national press, a seminar on Pakistan's nuclear programme, sponsored by Congressman Edward Markey of Massachusetts, under the auspices of the "non-proliferation task force" was organised the other day at the Russell Senate building. The purpose of the seminar was to analyse Pakistan's nuclear capabilities, and the panel included Senator Cranston, Georgetown University Strategic Centre's Rodney Jones, Wilson Institute's Jar Schneider, etc., etc. This seminar was triggered by Senator Cranston's recent statements on Islamabad's nuclear capabilities and his decision to move an amendment to the U.S. Foreign Aid Bill proposing a cutoff in military assistance to Pakistan.

For its part, Pakistan has done its best to dispel the misinformation spread by antagonists like Senator Cranston and a host of others that Pakistan has been engaged in developing a nuclear bomb which the Muslim world will use in a holy war against Israel or India. It challenges his selective morality, which picks on Pakistan but takes no congnizance of others who have already

acquired the capability, like India, Israel and South Africa. Despite rebuttal of these false assumptions on several occasions in the strongest possible terms, the anti-Pakistan movement about its nuclear weapons capability is gaining momentum day by day, although any person with little general knowledge of nuclear science and technology will understand that the laboratory plutonium reprocessing facility of Pakistan is too small to produce enough material over a long period, even for a single device.

Now the question arises as to why Pakistan has embarked upon its modest peaceful nuclear programme. The answer is simple. Like a large majority of the Third World countries, Pakistan is energy deficient and energy security has assumed a very grave problem for her. On a per capita basis, the estimated fossil fuel resources in Pakistan amount to only three per cent of the world average which tantamounts to the fact that Pakistan, like other oil importing countries, is indeed the worst hit. The projected yield from the available sources, including those yet to be harnessed, is not expected to fill the huge gap by expensive imports. Besides, Pakistan has certain basic problems of development, namely, low agricultural productivity, inadequate health facilities to combat certain diseases, and weak scientific and industrial infrastructure. Nuclear technology can play a key role in helping to overcome these problems besides accelerating the pace of the overall technological and scientific advancement of the country. She must develop a passionate commitment towards bringing about renaissance of the sciences.

Keeping in view our backwardness and low per capita income, we must impart hard scientific training to more than half of our manpower and pursue basic and applied sciences with 1-2 percent of our GNP spent on research and development with at least a quarter to one-third of this on pure sciences. Therefore, inter-alia, the nuclear power programme of Pakistan is broad in scope and balanced in objectives so as to provide wideranging benefits of the atomic energy to her people. The main causes of low agricultural productivity in our country are low yield per acre and destruction of crops before and after harvesting. Nuclear techniques have been found very useful in evolving improved varieties of crop which are not only high-yielding, but also resistant to diseases and pests.

Aware of the significance of nuclear radiations in agriculture, the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission has established three nuclear centres for agricultural research at Faisalabad, Tandojam, and Tarnab in Peshawar. Nuclear radiations and radioisotopes also have immense applications in the diagnosis and treatment of certain unconventional diseases. The commission has set-up eight nuclear medical centres in the country which provide facilities of diagnosis and treatment to thousands of patients by using radioisotopes produced in Pakistan. Further, introduction of nuclear energy in the country has provided a strong stimulant for the development of science and technology in the country.

It has had a far-reaching impact on improving the standards of scientific research, developing high quality manpower, raising the level of education and training and the building up of scientific infra-structure which in itself is a very important contribution towards the development of Pakistan. In a nutshell, in Pakistan, nuclear energy, instead of becoming a means of human destruction, is being harnessed for the promotion of the people's progress and prosperity.

Under the circumstances, how can Pakistan afford to have the luxury of abandoning its nuclear programme? Some time back, the chairman, PAEC [Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission] in an article, advocated a "global conference for the promotion of international co-operation" in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. That Pakistan is now well ahead of many Third World countries in developing peaceful uses of nuclear energy and has still campaigned in the U.N. and other international forums for declaring South Asia a nuclear-weapon free zone clearly speaks for the goals that Pakistan has set for itself.

Anyway, it is a matter of great regret that instead of persuading India, which exploded a nuclear bomb in 1974, to respond to Pakistan's proposals about a nuclear-weapon free zone in South Asia, the long-sustained campaign against her tends to encourage pre-emptive strikes against Pakistan installations. India has constructed her own power reactors, is setting up an experimental fast breeder reactor and is reportedly conducting research and development on a reactor as a submarine power plant and on centrifuge enrichment. Pakistan has achieved only centrifuge enrichment. Even then the world media has raised a hullaballoo against her acquiring knowledge of nuclear science and technology. It goes without saying that Pakistan badly needs the use of atomic energy for its development programme to better the conditions of its teeming millions. Yet, this technology remains a preserve of the Western nations who are reluctant to let anyone enter their orbit, ostensibly to check nuclear proliferation, but in fact to exploit the predicament in which the poorer countries happen to be.

The real purpose behind the persistent campaign against Pakistan to go nuclear is that there should occur a serious breach not only in Pakistan-U.S. relations but also to detach her from other Western countries, thereby to nullify all Pakistan's endeavours to develop its resources through the use of atomic energy for the prosperity of her people, and also to paint Pakistan as a belligerent country which does not deserve any assistance and expose it to the looming danger of its sovereignty. Pakistan is actually cordoned on both East and West, and if its resources, both human and material, are not developed with the latest methods and techniques of sciences and technology she stands nowhere. It is, of course, a matter of great concern for us.

In these circumstances, we have to evolve a strategy whereby Pakistan is not only in a position to defend its frontiers but also its ideology. Inter-alia, one is to avoid over projection of our achievements in the nuclear field. Pakistan has been blessed with capable scientific and technical manpower who can make significant contribution to our manifold development programmes, but they advertently or inadvertently have been indulging in projecting themselves unaware of the serious repercussions. Our national media did not lag behind in publishing their long interviews and also projecting the petty bickerings among themselves. Further the present structural arrangements have cast doubt about our intentions. To quote Mr. K. Subrahmanyam, in his article "Dealing with Pakistan" that appeared in the *TIMES OF INDIA* devolving on the offer of mutual inspection in both the

neighbouring countries made by the president of Pakistan, some time back, he pointed out that while in India, all nuclear activities have been assigned under the law to the Atomic Energy Commission and as such all nuclear activities can be monitored by inspecting the installations in the Atomic Energy Department, in Pakistan, this is not the case. The entire range of activities are not under the control of the Pakistan AEC. How then does one determine the installations to be inspected? Dr A. Q. Khan's activities are under the charge of the Ministry of Defence, and it would therefore necessitate the inspection of defence installations. "Will not Pakistan ask for a reciprocal inspection of our defence installations?" Therefore, Indians are suspect of Pakistan's intentions. In order to brush off such doubts and make ourselves the target of the persistent maligning of our peaceful nuclear programme, a change in the structure is worth consideration.

There has been a consistent pattern in the anti-Pakistan propaganda to magnify nuclear attainments in the recent past which is not commendable. In fact, it has incited anti-Pakistan elements like U.S. Senator Cranston and others like-minded to launch a sustained scornful campaign in the Congress and the American media to cripple Pakistan economically, scientifically, technologically and militarily and above all to alienate Pakistan from rest of the world.

Commentary Supports Nuclear Policy

BK161358 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Commentary by Ali Haider]

[Text] As you have heard in the news, in a closed-door briefing in Washington, the U.S. Senate has been alerted to the possibility of a preemptive strike by India against Pakistan's nuclear facilities. As given out by America's second largest network, ABC Television, the briefing was done by the administration and intelligence experts on potential troublespots in the Near East and South Asia. The senators were told that a conflict in South Asia could be triggered by India launching a preemptive attack against Pakistan's nuclear installation. On the basis of the intelligence reports, the senators were briefed that the Indian prime minister is being urged by her military advisers to launch such an attack. As the report adds, the alert to the U.S. Senate followed a host of such warnings from many quarters. They have begun to be taken seriously since Israel made its unprovoked strike against Iraq's nuclear reactor outside Baghdad in 1981. There have been suggestions that Israel might provide the know-how for originating such a raid against Pakistan's installation.

Anti-Pakistan lobbies have been persistently carrying out a vicious campaign of c -gous lies and fabricated stories against Pakistan's modest nuclear program for peaceful purposes. Sinister motives are being attributed and ominous forecasts made of impending happenings. Time and again Pakistan has made it clear that the use of nuclear energy in the country is an imperative to meet the growing demand of electricity. The country is at present spending 60 percent of its foreign exchange earnings on the importation of oil. Pakistan is pursuing a peaceful program of atomic energy consistent with its needs and limited resources. Besides developing nuclear power, Pakistan is placing strong emphasis on the application of nuclear techniques in agriculture, medicine, and industry. The sole aim of the modest nuclear program is to ensure a march toward economic prosperity, which in today's world is a vital factor to achieve stability inside the country as well as contributing to the stability of the region and the world at large.

President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has declared many times that Pakistan's nuclear program is entirely peaceful. Pakistan has always supported the international safeguard system and insists only that there should be no discrimination in its application. As the foreign minister of Pakistan stated on the floor of the Majlis-i-Shoora [Federal Advisory Council], Pakistan has consistently supported the international efforts at the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons [words indistinct] internationally, regionally, as well as bilaterally.

President Ziaul Haq has on a number of occasions observed that Pakistan's nuclear program is entirely peaceful in nature and we have no intention of acquiring or manufacturing nuclear weapons. However, we cannot be expected to mortgage the future progress of our people to the apprehensions of certain vested interests about the nature of our nuclear program. We are determined to pursue our indigenous research and development activities in the field of nuclear technology and to acquire this technology for peaceful purposes. For developing countries like Pakistan, it is even more necessary that they should foster peaceful and tension-free relations, especially with their neighbors, so that they can concentrate their energies and resources on the vital task of development.

Consistent with this objective, Pakistan has pursued a resolute policy of peace and goodwill. We remain firmly committed to promoting mutually beneficial relations with all countries of the world. In our own region, we have striven to strengthen confidence and to promote cooperation with our neighbors. [Words indistinct] it comprehends an implicit acceptance of the equal rights of other states. Their right to political independence, territorial integrity, and sovereign equality, and their right to determine their political, economic, and social system [words indistinct] external intervention, coercion, or pressure.

PAKISTAN TIMES Comments on Geneva Talks

GF161035 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 2 Sep 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Geneva III"]

[Text] The third round of indirect talks between Pakistan and the Kabul regime in Geneva to find a comprehensive settlement to the Afghanistan crisis has ended with the agreement to hold another round in February next year. Given the very delicate nature of the negotiations and the various complicated issues involved, no one expected the talks to produce instant results.

The earlier two rounds had already shown that the diplomatic process would be long, tortuous and slow and the parties concerned would have to learn to be patient. It was in this spirit that the third Geneva round was approached. The ground covered and

the progress made could not understandably, be divulged. But Mr. Cordovez, U.N. Secretary-General's personal representative on Afghanistan, has given broad indications about how the talks went and their prospects in the future. He disclosed that both Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost had told him that they were satisfied with the discussions held at Geneva.

The U.N. Secretary-General's personal representative also quoted them as telling him separately that they felt that progress had been made during the latest round of Geneva discussions. Mr. Cordovez's confidence that the diplomatic process has gone forward seems partly to derive from the new proximity format adopted for the talks which helped him to cover more turf in less time by being able to contact the two delegations more frequently to seek clarifications or to convey a point. Equally significant is the fact that both sides have expressed eagerness to continue the process. Nor can one ignore the point that being a custodian of secrets and critical information, Mr. Cordovez knows more about how things have been going on behind the scenes and is therefore in a position to judge the whole process in its true perspective.

Mr. Diego Cordovez has handed over instruments and texts to the two sides which he has asked them to study and examine before another round of indirect talks begins in Geneva in February. No details about these important documents have been supplied by Mr. Cordovez except that these have been drawn up in the light of the week-long discussions under his good offices.

The only solid clue provided by him in this regard is that the latest round of indirect talks was essentially directed at finding the structure on which the whole settlement could be built, and that the papers he had given the two sides were deeply linked with it.

So far as Pakistan is concerned, this structure means an integrated approach to the draft package settlement which has four fundamental elements; a timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, mutual guarantees of non-interference and non-intervention, international guarantees and the voluntary return of Afghan refugees to their homes, while Kabul reportedly tried to focus only on the second element in the package. Pakistan's stand is that there should be matching progress on all aspects of the package so that the ground can be paved for a comprehensive solution to the festering crisis.

The logic and realism underlying Pakistan's approach cannot be disputed. The situation in Afghanistan is highly convoluted. The crisis cannot be defused merely by coming to terms on guarantees of non-interference. There are other factors organically linked to a comprehensive settlement which cannot be ignored. Two important factors are the withdrawal of Soviet troops and the return of the refugees. No lasting solution is possible without finding an answer to these aspects of the crisis.

Pakistan's sincerity in the matter is underlined by the fact that unlike Kabul it does not insist on a particular aspect of interest to it but wants that both the roots and consequences of the crisis are taken into account as a way to evolve a permanent all-inclusive settlement. Needless to say, Pakistan's is clearly a problem-solving attitude.

It is to be hoped that a study of the instruments and texts handed over to Kabul by Mr. Cordovez would enable it to see the whole situation in a more realistic manner and that it would come to the next round of Geneva talks with a clearer mind on the subject and with greater earnest to end the crisis.

THE MUSLIM on Soviet Posture Toward Country

GF151352 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Sep 84 p 4

[Editorial: "A New Superpower Ballgame"]

[Text] Of late, there have been recurring reports in our media regarding a big concentration of Soviet troops on Pakistan's border with Afghanistan. Various reports have stated that nearly fourteen thousand Soviet soldiers have massed in eastern Afghanistan. However, a State Department spokesman in Washington has discounted the possibility of a Soviet military operation in Pakistan, adding that this build-up is part of Moscow's strategy against the Afghan mujahidin. Additionally, the American ambassador in Pakistan, while stating that the United States would be "responsive to any request from the Pakistan government for help in case Soviet troops enter Pakistan," refused to be specific on the nature of a possible response from his country, in the event of a Soviet incursion into Pakistan.

In recent months, there has been a noticeable hardening of the Soviet posture viz-a-viz Pakistan, both on the diplomatic as well as the military front. The tone of Moscow's well-oiled propaganda machinery is harsher than before and it has been backed by border violations and bombardments by the Afghan forces. Apart from occasional hints that there is close collaboration between the Soviet Union and India in their attitudes towards Pakistan, our government has not been more forthright in either taking the nation into confidence on the nature of any threat from the Soviet Union, if any, or in specifying the counter measures it envisages, should the situation get out of hand. What is significant in this situation is a view disseminated by certain official quarters that if the heat is really on Pakistan, then we may be left with no choice but to go deeper into the American embrace in order to "protect our sovereignty and national independence." This line is not only dangerous but also naive. It is dangerous to the extent that it links the defence of Pakistan to a foreign power rather than its own people and Armed Forces, who should be the best guardians of the state. It is naive to the extent that some policy makers are still wishful to the extent of believing that Pakistan's security or independence can be guaranteed by a foreign power, be it the United States or anybody else. Given the experience of 1971, when Pakistan, an ally of the United States, was allowed to be partitioned via foreign aggression, it is somewhat regrettable that lessons of the past have not really been properly learnt by the powers that be.

There is a feeling among certain observers that Kuwait, perceiving an "Iranian threat," sought arms from Moscow with the blessings of Washington. We hope that Moscow is not repaying this debt to the other super power by forcing Pakistan to go more deeply into the American camp whose consequences will be detrimental not only for Pakistan and the region but the Soviet Union as well. If Iran, our next door neighbour, which is half the

size of Pakistan, can ward off external aggression and simultaneously stand up to both super powers on its own, why can't Pakistan do the same? Those projecting a new equation of "more Soviet pressure means a closer Pakistan-American embrace" would do well to answer this question before they conjure up wishful and self-fulfilling prophecies.

India's Version of Hijacking Criticized

BK141248 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 13 Sep 84

[S.M. Qadir commentary]

[Text] According to a BBC broadcast, their correspondent, Satish Jacob, has reported from New Delhi that observers in the Indian capital believe that the release of information by Indian investigation officers about the possession of a pistol by the hijackers of the Indian plane had political motives aimed at diverting the attention of the Indian people from the internal tense situation before elections. The BBC correspondent has also said that the releasing of such details prior to the completion of investigations by India's Central Bureau of Intelligence [CBI] is against the norm of duty.

The daily *KUWAIT TIMES* has also written an editorial under the caption — Hijacking The Hijacked — in which it has criticized the Indian persistence in alleging the supply of a pistol to the Sikh hijackers in Lahore. The paper has regretted the fact that the controversy that started with the hijacking of an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 to Lahore, Karachi, and then to Dubayy last month still continues today in spite of India's recalling the passengers, the plane, as well as the hijackers. It reminded that the hijackers had told authorities in Dubayy that they possessed a pistol when they boarded the plane at Chandigarh in India. The paper has questioned the logic behind pursuing the pistol story also asking at the same time as to how the alleged supply of a pistol could have materially changed the situation because the hijacking was already committed. [sentence as heard] The paper has also spotlighted the fact that the hijackers being in the custody of the Indian police now are no longer free to say what they wish to say. The daily *KUWAIT TIMES* has also emphasized that most statements made in police custody tend to (?forget) when proceedings start in a court of law. The police has opined that a more pertinent point of inquiry now would be how or why the hijackers did what they did?

In this context, it will not be out of place to mention about the news item published in *THE TIMES OF INDIA* with the headline that the Sikh hijackers had boarded the plane with the pistol. One may recollect another news circulated by an Indian news agency — THE UNITED NEWS OF INDIA — according to which the passengers of the hijacked Indian Airlines Boeing 737 were asked by the hijackers to shout various slogans and when at one stage the passengers had refused to comply, the hijackers displayed a pistol and threatened them. This incident, the news agency has reported, took place when the hijacked plane was still in Indian air space. The Dubayy police chief has also categorically stated in a television interview taken by an interviewer of the Dubayy television and telecast by the same organization that the hijackers had all the arms with them when they boarded the plane at Chandigarh.

The international press had already reported another disclosure by the Sikh hijackers themselves when they were in Dubayy that they had bribed a security guard at Chandigarh airport to smuggle the pistol. All these facts as they got unveiled one after the other should have set at rest all the malicious allegations and preposterous fabrications of reports that were circulated n the recent past and have now started recirculating at the instance of the Indian intelligence.

As already reported by the Indian press, a special police cell is interrogating the hijackers. There is hardly any need to repeat that under the circumstances, the Indian police were capable of extorting any statement from the hijackers. According to another BBC broadcast, observers in New Delhi are also surprised that the Indian CBI has disclosed the so-called fact before the completion fo investigations because the investigations of the police are generally kept secret till the accused persons are formally chargesheeted and a case is instituted against them.

The observers therefore assert that these allegations were levelled by India in view of its domestic policy with a view to diverting the attention of its masses from the criticism against its military operation in East Punjab and the dismissal of the state governments because the ruling Congress Party is becoming unpopular even in those states where the party has its own government.

Briefs

Expenditure on Refugees— About 14 million rupees are being spent daily on 3 million Afghan refugees stationed in Pakistan; more than 50 percent of this amount is being borne by Pakistan itself. This was stated by the chief commissioner of the Afghan refugees in an interview in Islamabad today. He said that the influx of Afghan refugees is continuing and 6000-7000 refugees are being registered every month. He said that work is continuing on the reorganization of Afghan refugee camps, under which the smaller camps will be merged with the larger camps of the area so as to improve administration. [Excerpt] [*Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Sep 84 BK*]

OPEC Loan— The governing board of OPEC for international development has approved a $10 million interest-free loan for Pakistan. The loan will be utilized for the drainage of irrigated land on the left bank of the River Indus. The loan will mature in a period of 17 years with a 5-year grace period. [*Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 Sep 84 BK*]

NEPAL

Bhutan Foreign Minister Arrives 16 Sep

BK161715 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Excerpt] The foreign minister of Bhutan, Dawa Tsering, arrived in Katmandu today to take part in the opening of the first South Asian Federation Game. He was welcomed at the Tribhuvan International Airport by the minister of education and culture, Phatya Singh Tharu, and the president of the Nepal Olympic Committee, Sarat Chandra Shah.

SRI LANKA

Athulathmudali Claims Tamil Bases in India

BK190846 Hong Kong AFP in English 0817 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Colombo, Sept 19 (AFP) — A top Sri Lankan official has charged that Tamil separatists have set up "permanent homes" in southern India where they are being trained, a newspaper said today. The island newspaper reported that National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali made the charges yesterday at a public rally near Dambadeniya, about 65 kilometers (40 miles) from here.

Mr Athulathmudali repeated an earlier charge that the "terrorists" were being trained in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, 32 kilometers (20 miles) across the narrow Palk Strait, and said they had even brought bombs from there, the newspaper said.

It quoted him as saying the leaders of the "terrorist movement" have made Tamil Nadu their "permanent homes."

"One of the leaders had even married a Tamil Nadu woman and sought permanent residence there" the minister is reported to have said.

Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa and other senior politicians have charged that Tamil Nadu was not only providing refuge, but also facilities for training the separatists.

New Delhi has denied any complicity, but media reports said there were combat training camps in the southern state.

The separatists want an independent state in Sri Lanka's north and east, where most of the country's 2.5 million Tamil minority is concentrated.

Last month, soldiers were reported to have gone on the rampage in northern Sri Lanka by burning shops and houses in Mannar in the biggest outburst of violence since anti-Tamil rioting in July 1983 left nearly 400 people dead.

Statements by captured separatists and the discovery of ammunition and detonators of Indian manufacture have convinced most Sri Lankans of Tamil Nadu's involvement in the Sri Lankan separatist movement, observers said.

Official sources pointed out that one reason the government had sought Israeli assistance in its counter-separatist operation was because of the southern Indian "connection."

Sri Lanka, which suspended diplomatic relations with Israel in 1970, earlier this year sought Israeli counterinsurgency expertise to train military intelligence units and paramilitary forces.

New Delhi criticised the Sri Lankan move and expressed "concern" at what it called the "induction" of outside security forces into the region.

But India was later reported to have sought Israeli help for a pre-emptive strike against Pakistani nuclear installations. "If the story proves to be correct it will expose Indian hypocrisy," said a senior politician who asked not to be identified. "The boot is now on the other foot. We must ask India whether it is trying to start a regional war with Israeli help," he said.

"Let's wait and see what India now has to say" an official source said.

Meanwhile, the government has lifted the ban on the Nava Sama Samaja Party [NSSP] (New Socialist Party) which was proscribed shortly after the anti-Tamil riots last year.

The NSSP and the People's Liberation Front (JVP) were banned along with the pro-Moscow Communist Party for alleged involvement in the riots. The ban on the Communists was lifted several months ago, but the extreme-left JVP is still outlawed.

President Junius Jayewardene decided to left the ban on the NSSP after an appeal by four opposition parties which met with him recently on the upcoming parliamentary by-elections.

The opposition parties also called for the lifting of some emergency regulations, including those dealing with public meetings, the distrubution of pamphlets and the publication of speeches.

Mr Jayewardene yesterday relaxed some of the regulations in all but eight administrative districts which are affected by separatist activities and in the surveillace zone in Sri Lanka's northern waters. But he also extended the state of emergency by another month.

AFP: Tamil 'Hit Squad' en Route to Colombo

BK191240 Hong Kong AFP in English 1229 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Colombo, Sept 19 (AFP) — Police today clamped a city-wide security net on the Sri Lankan capital amid reports that a Tamil separatist "hit squad" was on its way to the city.

Police sources said that an alert was sounded last night acting on information from an eastern province police station that a "hit squad" was on its way to Colombo.

Patrols were immediately stepped up and Police Commissioner Neil Weerasinghe said today that several arrests had been made overnight.

Those arrested were being held for questioning, police said.

Police today also searched a hotel occupied by leaders of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) some of whom returned from southern India this week.

It was the second time they had carried out such a search in the hotel.

TULF leader Appapillai Amirthalingam has protested to President Junius Jayewardene and National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali about the search.

Mr Amirthalingam said the police action appeared to be meant as an act of "intmidation or harrassment."

Police said they searched the hotel in Colombo's Duplication Road following information that explosives were hidden there, but nothing was found.

Meanwhile several explosives went off in Vavuniya town in the troubled Northern Province today, but no damage was reported.

Police believe that it was an attempt by separatists to close all shops and state departments.

There was little response from the public, police reports said, and attendances at offices and schools were almost normal.

School attendance in Batticaloa to the southeast of Vavuniya was reported to be low, however, with only around ten percent of students turning out.

Jaffna, the northern capital, which has been the hub of militant Tamil separatist activity, was reported calm today and there were no police reports of any incidents.

Egyptian Accusation of Mining Red Sea Denied

LD181819 Tehran IRNA in English 1809 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — The Iranian Foreign Ministry today strongly denied recent allegations by Egypt that Iran and Libya had conducted the mining of the Red Sea.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry told IRNA that "these accusations and poisonous propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran and other progressive countries are baseless and unfounded. We strongly deny these lies."

The spokesman said the mining had been a joint conspiracy by the United States, the Zionist regime and Egypt for the purpose of imposing the military presence of arrogant countries on the Muslim people of the Middle East.

He also described as a lie an Egyptian claim that the Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had sent a letter to Iranian president 'Ali Khamene'i congratulating Iran for the mining of the Red Sea.

Khomeyni Holds Meetings With Officials 18 Sep

LD182055 Tehran IRNA in English 1527 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept 18, IRNA — Chairman of the experts assembly, Ayatollah Meshkini met and conferred with the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeyni today. Meanwhile, minister of information, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Mohammadi Reyshahri and head of the committees of the Islamic Revolution, Falahiyan, met with the imam today.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Economy, Khomeyni Statements

LD161939 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] A group of the members of the Islamic Republic Party and a number of that party's officials for Tehran met with Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani today.

During this meeting, while answering the audience's questions, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in a speech about economic issues and the recent remarks made by the imam of the nationa: I believe that if we treat the private sector with indifference, it will cause substantial damage to our country's fundamental issues. We believe that socialist countries have suffered deeply on that score. Personal motives in such matters are very important. God has created man with specific personal motives, but things should not reach a stage where it becomes injustice and aggression and violates other people's rights. As the best basis for economic matters and many other issues, the private sector is extremely important. Also the freedom of individuals can be preserved this way. [sentence as heard] The freedom of the individual is not merely to vote. The private sector must definitely become active.

The imam's remarks have never been so clear. Following his remarks, things should not be run as in the past; we should expedite matters. Following the imam's remarks the government immediately issued a circular;the rice project was one of the issues involved. Some people took advantage of the situation and with opportunism tried to attack the government, saying: Did the government not act in a religious manner before? Such remarks were quickly reflected in various circles, communiques, and foreign radios. I felt that the worst kind of injustice and wrong was being committed by those who oppose the government. Some time ago in a letter to the Majlis, the imam said: Whoever considers the actions of the government as contrary to the religion, I consider counterrevolutionary, or ignorant. On the other hand, leftists were spreading rumors. But it turned out that they were American, pro-Western, and followers of capitalism. It turned out that they would withdraw their statements in a few days, and foreign radios would have a field day. Counterrevolution has become active inside and outside the country. I heard this from various sources and said it in Friday prayer sermons. I said that government policy is not this way. Some of the ministers and officials were reluctant in the matter and placed obstacles in the course of the issue. Now, thanks to the imam's remarks, those obstacles have been removed.

The imam's remarks do not mean that we should leave matters in the hands of capitalist leeches. So long as the imam is alive, it is impossible for the country's affairs to be left in the hands of a few hoarders of wealth.

He said: How is it that on the world market we should take 40 to 50 tumans worth of foreign currency from a merchant for 8 tumans and tell him to buy whatever he likes and to bring it. [sentence as heard] This was possible when the demand for foreign currency was less than supply. Then, they sold the oil continually and converted it to foreign currency; and whoever wanted foreign currency received it.

Before saying all this in the Friday prayer sermons, I sent a message to the imam, saying that I wanted to say these things in defense of the government, so that if he had anything to say, he would say it to me. He said nothing. That night, after the imam listened to the sermons, Haj Ahmad [Khomeyni] said that whatever so-and-so has said is correct; my remarks were those of the imam and in their support. Despite this, the opposition did not relent. They said: Now that you attack the government, you should attack so-and-so. I should say that the imam is aware of all the issues, that all the strata inform him of the issues. When he said that these mischievous acts were going beyond limits, he made those remarks.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis continued his speech, saying: I agree with the new planning system, but planning should not only cater to the interests of the affluent. For example, these cooperatives, which have come under criticism for no reason at all, are a good thing in themselves. Some said that these cooperatives are part of the public sector and intend to disarm the private sector. This is not a correct impression. If these cooperatives are organized well they can include large groups of ordinary people, shop-owners and farmers alike, in order to put government facilities at their disposal. For example, if iron is to be imported, a cooperative of iron salesmen can undertake the work. Cooperatives can become rivals to capitalists. A capitalist can invest several million tumans in importing one kind of goods only, but a rug maker or a shop owner cannot. However, if they gather

together in cooperatives they would be able to act in the same manner. The private sector is not a limited and restricted sector. The imam said that the government is the government of the deprived and the oppressed, so the oppressed should be able to trade and produce and share in big manufacturing ventures.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in conclusion: I support the new plan. This new rice plan was implemented at my insistence. At the beginning I was opposed to the rice plan. Mine was one of the votes against the plan; but when my vote was not accepted, I never voiced my opposition anywhere and have not done so since. The government took a legal decision, and I supported it. Now the government has accepted this view and has implemented it.

Montazeri Urges Conservation To Combat Shortages

LD181814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Minister of Energy Ghafuri-Fard, together with that ministry's under-secretaries, met and conferred with Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday and reported on the problems and current programs of that ministry. The Grand Ayatollah Montazeri made a speech in which he praised the government's efforts to meet the needs of the deprived people. He said: Although the efforts by the government to eradicate shortages are evident, if one notices flaws in plans and programs which would be disadvantageous to the deprived, these flaws should be pointed out. His excellency said: One's friend should not ignore or cover up faults or look at them as positive and favorable characteristics. Such an action would be hostile to the person, society, or government and not an act of friendship.

His excellency then made several recommendations to the minister of energy. Addressing him as a member of the Cabinet, hesaid: One of the problems plaguing people concerning inner-city plots of land is that, although it was decided the government should buy inner-city plots from their owners and make them available to buyers at a reasonable price, this law, unfortunately, has not been completely implemented. In practice, people have violated the laws of the land and have committed acts against the tradition of Islam.

His excellency stressed: If the government bans the transfer of land ownership, it should find a solution for the fact that people need land in order to build houses and meet other needs, so that people do not get into the habit of buying and selling land illegally, violating government laws, and using water and electricity illegally. Making the buying and selling of land illegal without considering the effects of such a step does not solve any problems; it encourages people to oppose government laws, violate government circulars, and eventually become disaffected. In this case, it is in the interests of the government and the people that the government find a solution and remove this difficulty from the people.

The Grand Ayatollah Montazeri urged people to economize in their consumption of water and electricity, and to refrain from wasting electricity and using appliances that consume a lot ofelectricity at a time when the country and the government are subjected to an economic embargo and to the imposed war, factors whichinevitably lead to water and electricity shortages. He asked the people to cooperate with the government more than before. His excellency also recommended that the government find a way to meet power requirements in order to expand and strengthen the country's industries. Merely expanding industries without finding a way to supply the power needed is useless.

Montazeri Visits Golpaygani's Sickbed

LD182324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Last night the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri visited the Grand Ayatollah Golpaygani at his sickbed in his eminence's house.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,854

LD181634 Tehran IRNA in English 1614 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — Iraqi armoured and artillery units in southern fronts were fired on during the past 24 hours killing or wounding 10 Iraqi troops and smashing parts of Iraqi defensive positions and bunkers.

Announcing this, the Joint Staff Command Communique No. 1,854 issued today further said that exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued in most battle fronts during this period.

Infiltration activities of Iraqi patrol groups were thwarted in northwestern fronts and several of them were killed. Also Iraqi movements were halted in these battle scenes when Islamic combatants fired on the enemy's logistic units and vehicles. The engineering activities of the enemy were also checked in those fronts.

The Iraqi fire was extinguished or reduced in the western fronts, while three bunkers, one observation post, one truck carrying personnel and a considerable amount of enemy munitions were set ablaze.

The residential areas of Abadan came under Iraqi long-range heavy gun fire on Monday as a result of which 10 houses were damaged, concluded the Joint Staff Command Communique.

Troops Continue To Leave for War Zones

GF190627 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] To continue the supply of fresh troops to help the Islamic fighters in the war zones, and with a view to inflicting fresh blows on the worn-out body of the Saddam Husayn regime, a large group of persons mobilized by the Revolution Guards of sector one of the country left for the war zones yesterday after completing the necessary training. Another large group of our brothers from the resistance camps set up for persons mobilized by the Revolution Guards from the seafront area of Hormuzgan Province left for the war zones to provide support to the valiant soldiers of Islam in their war of good against evil. According to the Central News Unit on 17 September, in continuation of such

departures, another large group of brave soldiers of the 55th battalion of airborne troops from Shiraz left for the war zones after attending a rally in Shiraz.

Iraqi Families To Be Permitted To Visit POW's

LD181103 Tehran IRNA in English 0935 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept 18, IRNA — The Iranian Government for humanitarian reasons, will provide conditions for the families of the Iraqi POW's to visit their sons in Iran during the war week, said Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi here today.

Speaking to IRNA the prime minister said that families of the Iraqi POW's could visit their sons during the war week, beginning Sept. 22, marking the fourth anniversary of the Iraqi-imposed war, and become familiar with their living conditions.

The prime minister urged the International Red Cross to take measures for implementation of this programme and pressure the Iraqi officials to yield to this proposal.

The prime minister took a similar initiative three years ago following which despite opposition of the Iraqi officials, a large number of families of the Iraqi POW's visited their sons in Iran. During the past six months alone some 322 Iraqi families have visited their sons.

Kharrazi Announces Details of 'War Week'

LD151927 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 15, IRNA — With the nearing of the fourth anniversary of the Iraqi aggression against Iran, the head of the War Information Headquarters, Dr. Kamal Kharrazi, said that the Islamic Republic has reached "definite stability."

Kharrazi who was speaking in a press conference today, said this was despite the Iraqi regime's aim of destroying the Islamic revolution.

He said that four years ago Saddam Husayn dared to threaten the Islamic Republic with permanent occupation of its territories, to dismember Iran and destroy its population centres, but today the resistance of the Iranian Muslim people has forced him to search desperately for a way out of the fire he ignited.

Emphasising that Iran has only defended itself in the war, Kharrazi said the Iraqi aggression still continued. The Islamic Republic does seek peace, he added, but Iraq had become an obstacle in its realisation.

The head of the War Information Hqs. also announced the program for the "war week" which would be held from September 22-28, as follows:

Saturday Sept. 22 — The Armed Forces will hold a march towards Azadi Square in Tehran on the fourth anniversary of the war. An exhibition will be held at Tehran's Mossala on the most recent Iranian Khaybar offensive which would include a model of the Majnun Islands. Military equipment and parts and the concentrations of various organizations in connection with the war would also be on display at the Mossala. There will be an arts gallery at the Daneshjou Park with photographs, paintings, plays, films and music.

Sunday Sept. 23 — Students will hold a march in the morning on the first day of the academic year towards the former U.S. Embassy. Iraqi POW's will take part in the march. In the afternoon, Iraqi refugees, mujahidin as well as Afghan refugees will hold a united march.

Monday Sept. 24 — Workers will be requested to work more as a symbolic economic effort and the people to consume less. A day of fasting is also suggested. Completed industrial and agricultural projects would be introduced.

Tuesday Sept. 25 — The Armed Forces will participate in a united prayers ceremony throughout the country. In the evening special prayers will be held in mosques.

Wednesday Sept. 26 — Military training sessions will be held in schools, factories and mosques.

Thursday Sept. 27 — The people will be invited to visit the maimed of the war, families of martyrs and those missing in action, the wounded and war refugees. A special ceremony will also take place at the Beheshte Zahra cemetery and other cemeteries throughout the country.

Friday Sept. 28 — Marches will be held towards places of Friday prayers and the people would renew their faith in the leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeyni. Groups of Muslim combatants will be dispatched to the war fronts after the prayers.

Midterm Elections Results Announced

GF150635 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpts] We present a report on the announcement of the results of the midterm elections in the cities of Moghan and Fasa by the elections headquarters of the Interior Ministry.

In the Moghan constituency, of the 38,871 votes received Brother Motalleb Dashti-Tuli obtained 16,100 votes and in the Fasa constituency, of the total number of 27,449 votes, Brother Ahmad Beheshti received 15,870 votes. They have both been declared elected by the residents of these constituencies and are now members of the Islamic Council Majlis.

Besharati Leaves for UAE, Qatar, PDRY

LD170947 Tehran IRNA in English 0722 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Deputy foreign minister, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, heading a delegation, left here Sunday evening for visits to the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Besharati is carrying written messages from Iran's president, 'Ali Khamene'i, to the heads of the said states.

He will also brief the heads of the three countries on the Islamic Republic's endeavours to coordinate activities of the Islamic, and Third World countries for an extensive fight against the Zionist regime and its expulsion from international organisations including the U.N.

Reportage on Visit

For reportage on the visit to the United Arab Emirates by 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, deputy foreign minister, see the UAE subsection, Arabian Peninsula section of the 17 September Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Diplomatic Delegation Leaves for Far East

LD151511 Tehran IRNA in English 1436 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 15, IRNA — An Iranian diplomatic delegation left Tehran on Friday for the Far East in a bid to attract support for Iran's initiative to expel the Zionist regime from the United Nations.

The group is headed by Foreign Ministry Director General in Charge of Asia-Oceania Affairs, Ali Ahani.

The delegation is to present messages from President Khamene'i and Prime Minister Musavi to the heads of state of Vietnam, Laos and Maldives.

The messages call for cooperation in expelling the Zionist regime from international organisations including the U.N.

Reportage on Visit by Syrian Industry Minister

Meeting With Velayati

LD151415 Tehran IRNA in English 1401 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran Sept. 15, IRNA — In a meeting on Saturday with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Syrian minister of industries, Mahmud Qaddur said his country was ready to expand trade relations with the Islamic Republic.

Qaddur is visiting Iran as the head of an industrial-trade delegation.

Velayati said Iran is interested in expanding relations with Syria, who is in the front line states facing the Zionist regime. The trade between the two countries should expand, he said.

Interview Before Departure

LD161214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Mahmud Qaddur, Syrian industry minister, left Tehran this morning for Damascus at the conclusion of a week-long visit. He was seen off by Mr Ja'fari, our country's commerce minister.

Before leaving Tehran he gave an interview in which he elaborated on the outcome of his delegation's visit to Iran and talks held with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said:

Ties between Iran and Syria are principled and decisive, and their ultimate aim is to counter imperialism and Zionism and any form of aggression or war-mongering.

Mr Qaddur added: During its talks and meetings with the high-ranking officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian economic-trade delegation held numerous negotiations and agreement was reached in all topics brought up for discussion.

Mr Ja'fari, our country's minister of commerce, also told our correspondent in an interview: We discussed with the visiting Syrian delegation bilateral trade, supplies of glass, fertilizer, electrical appliances, textiles, and cement for the Persian Gulf border areas; we have reached agreement in all areas.

Belgian Trade Minister Meets With Leaders, Officials

Foreign Minister

LD151502 Tehran IRNA in English 1440 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 15, IRNA — Belgium's Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Trade, Andre Kempinaire, met Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and discussed bilateral trade between the two countries.

Kempinaire is visiting Iran at the head of a trade delegation for talks with Iranian officials and participation in 10th Tehran's International Trade Fair.

In the meeting, Kempinaire said his country was ready to expand trade with Iran, and Velayati said that he too welcomed expansion of two-way trade based on mutual interest and respect.

Industries, Mines Ministers

LD170359 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 16, IRNA — Belgian Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Trade Andre Kempinaire met and held talks with the Iranian minister of industries, Gholam Reza Shafe'i, here today

In his talks with the Belgian official the Iranian minister emphasised Iran's concern about larger exports of non-oil products to Belgium, as well as the expansion of industrial and technological collaboration between the two countries.

In other meeting here today, the Belgian official met and discussed with the Iranian minister of mines and metals, Hoseyn Nili-Ahmadabadi, topics relevant to a copper refinement project and Iran's export of non-iron metals to Belgium.

Roads, Transportation Minister

LD171425 Tehran IRNA in English 1356 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — The Belgian minister of state

for external trade, Andre Kempinaire, currently here at the head of a delegation, met and conferred with Roads and Transport Minister Mohammad Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan, Monday morning.

Welcoming the Belgian delegation, the Iranian official stressed the principle of independence and self-sufficiency in Iran's economic and industrial ties with other countries.

The Belgian minister, referring to good relations between the two countries, stressed further expansion of mutual cooperation in the fields of railway transportation, ports, aviation and transfer of technology.

Agriculture, Energy Ministers

LD171429 Tehran IRNA in English 1407 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Belgian Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Trade Andre Kempinaire met Minister of Agriculture 'Abbas 'Ali Zali Monday and discussed issues of mutual interest including Iran-Belgium participation in 10th Tehran International Trade Fair.

In the meeting, Zali said expansion of agricultural sector has high priority in Iran's development plan. The Islamic Republic is interested in cooperating with Belgium in the sugar industry and fisheries, he added.

Kempinaire said his country's participation in the Tehran fair is a sign of Belgium's interest in expansion of relations with Iran. Belgium is ready to cooperate in Iran's five year development plan in achieving self-sufficiency, he said.

Kempinaire also invited Zali to his country to inspect Belgium's agricultural activities.

The Belgian minister also met Minister of Energy Hasan Ghafuri-Fard Monday and discussed cooperation in the field of energy particularly transfer of energy.

Departure 18 September

LD181929 Tehran IRNA in English 1202 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — The Belgian minister of state in charge of foreign trade, Andre Kempinaire, and the accompanying delegation, left Tehran Tuesday following a three-day visit and talks with several Iranian ministers.

The Belgian minister described his visit and talks with the Iranian officials as satisfactory and added that since 18 months ago when he visited Iran, economy of the country has been progressing and great steps have been taken towards development.

The Iranian minister of commerce, Hasan Abedi Ja'fari, also said that fruitful talks were held between the Belgian delegation and the Iranian ministers of industries, heavy industries, energy, agriculture, roads and transportation and foreign affairs.

Abedi Ja'fari further added that talks on trade between the two countries included export of Iranian goods and it was decided that measures would be taken to remove obstacles on the way of export of Iranian hand woven carpets to Europe. In addition, the Belgian officials welcomed the proposal of Iran to open an Islamic Republic's export center in Belgium, added Abedi Ja'fari.

Bulgarian Economic Delegation Holds Talks

Welcomed by Nabavi

LD141732 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 14, IRNA — Bulgarian Minister of Electronics and Machine Building Toncho Chakurov [title as received] arrived here today heading an economic delegation from his country. He was welcomed at Tehran Mehrabad Airport by Iran's Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi.

The Bulgarian delegation will stay in Tehran for four days and will also participate in Bulgaria's national day at Tehran international trade fair which goes on here.

They are also expected to hold talks with Iranian officials on technical, economic and trade cooperation between Iran and Bulgaria.

Ministers Discuss Trade

LD161928 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sep. 16, IRNA — Bulgarian Minister of Electronics and Machine Manufacturing Toncho Chakurov met Iranian Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi Ja'fari here today and discussed topics on proposed plans for increasing the volume of commercial exchanges between Iran and Bulgaria.

In related news the Bulgarian official who is also accompanied by a delegation from his country inspected the Pars-Khodrow (formerly General Motors) plants here today. Later on the visiting Bulgarian official and delegation also paid a visit to Saipa factories here which manufacture and assemble the Iranian version of Renault Cars.

Velayati Receives Chakurov

LD171757 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Bulgaria's Minister of Electronics and Machine Manufacturing Toncho Chakurov met Foreign Minister Velayati Monday and gave him a message from his country's foreign minister Petur Mladenov.

The message dealt with Velayati's recent trip to Bulgaria and its effect on the expansion of economic and political ties between the two countries.

In his message, Mladenov invited Velayati to meet with him in the next U.N. General Assembly.

In Monday's meeting, Velayati commented on the latest act of expansionism of the Zionist regime and said Iran as an Islamic and revolutionary nation will support all countries who oppose the Zionist regime.

Velayati said the only way to face the Zionist regime is through armed struggle.

He also expressed the hope that Bulgaria would support the Islamic Republic's initiative to oust the Zionist regime from the U.N.

Musavi Meets Bulgarian Minister
LD180938 Tehran IRNA in English 0712 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — The visiting Bulgarian minister of electronics and machine building, Toncho Chakurov, met with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi here Monday night and discussed with him expansion of bilateral industrial, trade and technical ties.

During the meeting, also attended by Iran's Heavy Industries minister Behzad Nabavi, the Bulgarian official noted tht stability of the Islamic Republic was the main factor for great achievements in Iran in the field of major industries.

He added that young managers and upward trend towards making further progress promised a flourishing future in Iran.

The prime minister, referring to scientific and experimental ways and means for the expansion of mutual relations between Iran and Bulgaria, said that one of the objectives of the Islamic Republic was to modernise and make independent its heavy industries.

Musavi said that the change in volume of trade of the Islamic Republic after the victory of the Islamic Revolution was due to Iran's independent policy.

He also outlined present political and military situation in the region and open interference of the NATO, and the U.S. in the Persian Gulf, Oman Sea and the Indian Ocean.

Agriculture Minister Meets Chakurov
LD182100 Tehran IRNA in English 1523 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — The Bulgarian minister of electronics and machine manufacturing, Toncho Chakurov, currently visiting Iran, met and talked with the Iranian minister of agriculture, 'Abbas 'Ali Zali, here today.

The Bulgarian minister said that participation of his country in the tenth Tehran International Trade Fair, would play a significant role in further expansion of mutual economic ties.

Speaking about main objectives in agricultural and industrial planning, Zali said that both sectors would progress alongside one another and special attention will be paid to agricultural industry.

He further told the Bulgarian minister that the Islamic Republic of Iran was interested in further expanding mutual cooperation in the field of agriculture and that participation of Bulgaria in the fair would be a productive step in this respect.

Chakurov Comments Before Departure
LD182223 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Mr Chakurov, the minister of machine building of Bulgaria, who came to Tehran to hold talks with our country's industrial officials, left Tehran this afternoon and was seen off by Mr Behzad Nabavi, minister of heavy industries.

In an interview with our correspondent before leaving Tehran he said: Economic relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Bulgaria are expanding very well. During my stay in your country I had meetings with Iranian officials, especially Mr Nabavi, minister of heavy industries, and the level of our discussions were good. In view of the various areas of cooperation, we will continue this cooperation. The Bulgarian minister said that the officials of the two countries should pay greater attention to and make a deeper study of the expansion of bilateral relations, and added: The two countries can cooperate in the production and sale of joint industrial goods to third countries. He expressed his pleasure at visiting our country and having talks with Iranian officials, and expressed his hope that the relations between the two countries will continue in the future.

Concerning this trip Mr Behzad Nabavi, minister of heavy industries, said: Basically, the visit of the Bulgarian minister of machine building to our country was to open that country's stand in the international fair and to have talks with Iranian officials. This visit did not contemplate the signing of agreements or protocols. However, fortunately, during the minister's stay in Tehran, in addition to useful meetings, we reached common views on industrial issues. This visit can provide means for the expansion of cooperation and the signing of new agreements between the two countries. One of the areas of cooperation could be the expansion of industrial cooperation in the construction of cranes and lift trucks. We also had some talks concerning the production of industrial goods by the two countries and their sale to third countries.

Velayati Welcomes Tanzanian Counterpart 17 Sep
LD170930 Tehran IRNA in English 0728 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Tanzanian ministers of foreign affairs, Benjamin Mkapa, water and energy, Al-Noor Kassum, and a political and economic delegation of that country arrived here for an official visit this morning.

The Tanzanian delegation was welcomed at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport by Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister of Energy Hasan Ghafuri-Fard, Deputy Oil Minister, Honardust, and Iran's ambassador to Tanzania, Hojjat ol-Eslam Lavasani.

Upon his arrival at the airport, the Tanzanian foreign minister

expressed pleasure over his visit to Iran which was made in reply to a visit to this country by his Iranian counterpart in August last year.

He said that he was bringing with him good wishes of the Tanzanian president, government and people for the leader of Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeyni, President Khamene'i, the government and people of Iran.

He added that his visit to Iran was intended to further strengthen bilateral ties, promote further understanding, and to broaden the areas of cooperation to mutual advantage. He expressed confidence that his talks with Iranian officials would enable them to establish a strong identity of views on international and bilateral issues.

During its stay here, the Tanzanian delegation will meet and confer with officials of the Islamic Republic.

Further on Velayati Welcome

LD171238 Tehran IRNA in English 1036 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran Sept. 17, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said that the Islamic Republic attached special importance to its relations with Tanzania since it had followed a principal anti-racist and anti-imperialist policy.

The foreign minister, welcoming the Tanzanian delegation at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport Monday morning, further added that Tanzania was an example of resistance in the African Continent vis-a-vis the racist regime of South Africa.

Moreover, he said, Tanzania had rendered generous assistance to a number of other African states such as Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola in their fight for freedom.

On Iran's ties with Muslims and Third World countries, Velayati said that the Islamic Republic expanded its economic relations with those countries with no strings attached.

The Tanzanian delegation, also including minister of foreign affairs, and water and energy, arrived here this morning to hold talks with Iranian officials.

Velayati, Tanzanian Hold Talks

LD181049 Tehran IRNA in English 0945 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept 18, IRNA — Tanzanian Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa who is currently here at the head of a delegation, met with his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati and discussed with him matters of mutual interest Monday afternoon.

Referring to many common views existing in international stances of both Iran and Tanzania, Mkapa noted that the Islamic Revolution was one of the most unprecedented revolutions in the world which supported independence and freedom in the present world.

He also outlined problems of southern Africa and bottlenecks created for the front line countries by the aggressions of the racist South African regime.

Mkapa stressed that his country would exert utmost efforts in the next session of the Organisation of African Unity for the membership of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic to the organisation.

He also appreciated Iran's assistance to his country in the field of energy.

The Iranian foreign minister then stressed on the Islamic Republic's policy to expand relations with the Third World countries especially those in Africa.

Referring to the crimes committed by the racist South African and the Zionist regimes, Velayati pointed out measures taken by the Islamic Republic against the two usurper regimes.

He also called on his Tanzanian counterpart to support the Islamic Republic's plan to expel the Zionist regime from international societies.

Velayati expressed the hope that Tanzania and other progressive African countries would give a positive vote to this plan in theh next session of the United Nations.

The Iranian foreign minister announced the Islamic Republic's readiness to render technical asistance to Tanzania to explore and refine its oil.

The Tanzanian delegation, also including water and energy minister, arrived in Tehran Monday morning.

Khamene'i Meets Visiting Tanzanian

LD181906 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Tanzanian Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa, who has come to our country at the head of a diplomatic-economic delegation, met and conferred with President Khamene'i this morning.

During this meeting, which was also attended by the ambassador and minister of water and energy of Tanzania, as well as Foreign Minister Velayati, Energy Minister Ghafuri-Fard, the director-general for Asian and African affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and our country's ambassador to Tanzania, the Tanzanian foreign minister first conveyed a written message from President Nyerere to President Khamene'i.

The Tanzanian foreign minister said: We believe Iran's breaking of relations with South Africa demonstrates the nobility of this revolution, and we admire Iran's nonaligned stance. We are certain that Islamic Iran has the power to attain all its holy goals, in spite of all the plots against it.

Then, expressing his appreciation for the Tanzanian president's kind message and thanking him in return for his warm greetings,

President Khamene'i said: Our friendly relations, which we value greatly, are indicative of our mutual goals, foremost of which is the struggle against the domination of big powers and against racist policies and racial discrimination throughout the world.

Referring to Iran's recent actions to form a committee to defend American blacks, and inviting all heads of state, authors, intellectuals, and world dignitaries to join that committee, President Khamene'i said:

The cooperation between Iran and Tanzania on this committee demonstrates the two countries' friendly cooperation.

The Islamic Republic stands shoulder to shoulder with governments that are on the front line of the struggle against racial discrimination.

We are prepared to cooperate with you to uproot racist policies in all international circles and all political and cultural fields.

The president continued:

South Africa is not the only country that follows racist policies; Israel follows the same policy. Israel is considered to be a stronghold for U.S. colonialist policies. Therefore, our struggle against racist policies is the same as our struggle against America.

Referring to the point that we shall try hard to expel Israel from the UN, the president added: Fortunately, many world governments have given a positive response to our call and have promised to cooperate. We expect considerable cooperation from our friends in Tanzania.

Prime Minister Receives Mkapa

LD182227 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — In a meeting with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi here today Tanzanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Benjamin Mkapa said his country praised the Islamic revolution and the struggle of the Iranian people against imperialism and colonialism.

Prime Minister Musavi appreciated the outlooks of the Tanzanian minister and noted that the Islamic Republic placed emphasis on establishing relations with the Third World countries.

He noted that for years and for obvious purposes the world imperialism had created a large gulf between each and every one of the Third World countries.

In other topics, the Iranian prime minister said the racist South African regime was a cancerous tumor such as the Zionist regime, which must be removed from the body of the African Continent.

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and the Tanzanian minister of energy Al-Noor Kassum were also present in the meeting.

Irish Trade Delegation Arrives in Tehran

LD181248 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — The Minister of State in Charge of Tourism, Industries, Trade and Commerce of the Republic of Ireland, Edward Collins, heading a delegation, arrived in Tehran Tuesday morning to talks with Iranian officials.

Speaking to IRNA at the airport, Edward Collins said that he had come to Iran to visit the tenth Tehran International Trade Fair and also hold talks with several Iranian ministers including the minister of agriculture. The talks, he added, would center on expanding trade relations between the Republic of Ireland and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Iranian minister of agriculture, 'Abbas 'Ali Zali, who was at the airport to greet Collins, said that both countries have cooperations in the fields of agriculture, and livestock raising. He further added that in this connection an Iranian delegation is currently visiting Republic of Ireland.